

BAY AREA REPORTER

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Bay Pride

An unidentified man flies the Gay Pride Flag on the Bay Bridge during re-opening ceremonies on Nov. 16.
(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

Murder Sentences Reduced

'Fag-Bashers' To Be Freed

by Dennis Conkin

Last Thursday's California Supreme Court ruling that let stand a Court of Appeal decision reducing the prison terms of three convicted "fag-bashers" means that the trio will be released from prison by the end of the year.

David Rogers and David Clanton, both 23, and Timothy White, 26, are serving 15-year-to-life terms for the 1984 second-degree murder of Patrick O'Connell, a

San Francisco gay man.

O'Connell died shortly after the incident when he fell and struck his head on a Polk Street area sidewalk, in a bashing that included a punch, a slap and verbal taunts and jeers by the three men.

The Court of Appeal reduced the sentences of the men after finding that he did not die from the blows but from head injuries he suffered when he hit the

ground.

The court ruled that there was no record of the kind of malice necessary to sustain a conviction of second-degree murder and reduced their convictions to involuntary manslaughter.

The ruling frees the men because they have served the four-year maximum sentence for involuntary manslaughter.

Maureen Kallins, White's attorney, said the ruling was a relief.
(Continued on page 23)

NGRA Funding Under Fire; Scam Alleged

by Dennis Conkin

Less than a week following the sudden and forced termination of National Gay Rights Advocates staff attorneys Ben Schatz and Cynthia Goldstein, allegations are being raised that the agency misled donors in mawkish direct-mail pitches for cash and then spent only 20 percent of the 1989 estimated \$1.6 million budget on legal services.

As early as May 1989, according to documents obtained by the *Bay Area Reporter*, outgoing NGRA Legal Director Leonard Graff expressed concern to a planning committee of the agency's board of directors that only 20 percent of the agency's budget was spent on legal services.

That same month, a *Washington Blade* survey revealed that NGRA had doubled its budget from \$800,000 in 1987 to more than \$1.6 million in 1989.

The agency is also under attack for direct-mail fundraising campaigns, amidst charges that it raised funds for projects that never materialized, including a lawsuit, and that donors were never notified that their contributions were not used for such projects.

In a February 1989 appeal, NGRA Executive Director Jean O'Leary informed donors that the agency planned to file a lawsuit against insurance com-



Jean O'Leary. (Photo: Mick Hicks)

panies to force them to pay for aerosol pentamidine treatment for pneumocystis pneumonia.

"One of NGRA's attorneys described this project as especially satisfying because the result is so tangible, so immediate, and so important. I hope you feel the same way. We're going to force insurers to pay for this lifesaving treatment. But our lawsuit is going to be expensive," O'Leary told recipients of the fundraising piece.

O'Leary told donors the lawsuit would cost an estimated \$50,000.

(Continued on page 23)

Massachusetts Joins Wisconsin

Dukakis Signs Gay Civil Rights Bill

by Masha Gessen

The mood in the Massachusetts Statehouse Nov. 15 could not have been more different from the angry protest of Jan. 4, 1988—the last time so many lesbians and gay men were in the building. This time they gathered to watch Gov. Michael Dukakis sign into law the lesbian and gay civil rights bill.

The gay and lesbian spectators seemed temporarily to forgive the past sins of the governor, whose homophobic foster-care placement policy and lack of leadership in the fight against AIDS have alienated the organized gay and lesbian community. The crowd applauded heartily when Dukakis opened the signing ceremony.

"This state... has always been in the forefront of efforts to extend civil-rights protections to all segments of the population," declared the governor of Massachusetts, which is only the second state in the nation to enact gay and lesbian civil-rights legislation. "Today once again we lead," Dukakis said. "I'm sorry Wisconsin got there first, but then they exercised great, good judgment."

Joining Dukakis at the podium were more than a dozen current and former legislators who have supported the bill, as well as a lesbian and a gay man who have lobbied for the legislation. Cordoned off from the podium were

(Continued on page 16)



Lesbian Sue Pavlic with her adopted son, Eric Pavlic Jensen.
(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

Lesbian Adoption Victory

by M. J. Murphy

An East San Francisco Bay lesbian couple has become the first in California and the nation to jointly adopt a child with AIDS.

An Alameda County Superior Court judge overruled a negative recommendation from the state Department of Social Services and allowed Millie Jensen, 38, and Sue Pavlic, 31, to legally adopt 2-year-old Eric, a child born with HIV infection.

Eric was initially placed in the foster care of the couple when he was released from the hospital at the age of five weeks.

According to the couple's attorney, Roberta Achtenberg, director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights, the judge agreed with her argument that

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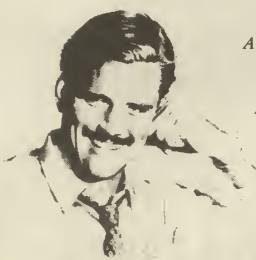
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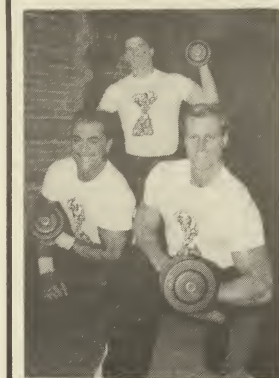


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Alice Club Replacing Top Posts With Male, Female Co-chairs

by Allen White

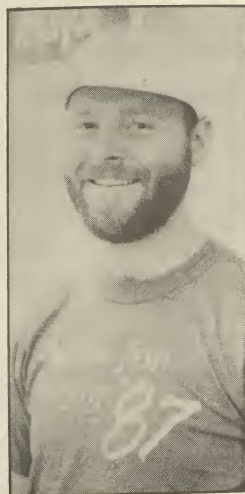
The office of president and vice-president will be abolished as the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club restructures its organization. In a move that is a first for any political club, male and female co-chairs will be the governing officers of the organization.

Ron Braithwaite, president of the club, said the Executive Committee approved the concept at their meeting Saturday, Nov. 18. The by-laws change will be announced at the December meeting, and a vote will come in January. Following that vote, the election of new officers will take place.

Braithwaite said the idea set the club apart as "a trail blazer into the '90s."

With the elimination of the president and vice-president, the offices of issues, membership and political action chair will be elevated to the title of vice-chair of each category.

The club also plans to phase out the Women's Caucus.



Ron Braithwaite. (Photo: Rink)

Barabara Cameron, a club vice-president said, "There now

seems to be no need for a women's caucus because women are fairly well integrated into the club's leadership."

Braithwaite said that he and Cameron planned to run for the new offices. If elected, it will be the first time in the history of the club that a person has served in the top leadership position for three terms.

Allowing the organization to be managed by two people, rather than one, is a process used by the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Committee, the Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom, the Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance and several other gay organizations.

If the restructuring is approved, it will be the first time such a plan has been in place for a political club.

The Alice B. Toklas Club, the oldest gay Democratic Club in the country, was founded in the early '70s by Jim Foster and has since grown into the largest Democratic political club in the state. ▼

SCENE AND HERD

Credibility Gap

by Dave Ford

The controversy over news "re-creations" (also called "reconstructions," "reenactments" and "simulations") has finally boiled over. Although CBS's ratings barrel-scraper *Saturday Night With Connie Chung* last week again used actors to dramatize new events—further blurring the line between "docu" and "drama"—officials there and at NBC said the vid-fibs are history (as opposed to reconstructions of history, like on NBC's "news" show *Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow*). Said Tom Ross, NBC senior vice president for news planning, "We're evaluating the future of them here." Why? Former CBS President Richard Salant: "If you start mixing imagined fact with real fact, there goes your credibility." Proof: of 1,250 surveyed adults who knew YTT, 18 percent thought it was news, while 14 percent thought it entertainment.

They may be news, they may be entertainment, but re-creations have made their mark in the media. In fact, this column is a simulation of a real column. Do not be deceived: the people appearing here are actually actors portraying real figures. If you start mixing imagined attitude with real attitude—there goes your credibility.

The controversy over the New York Artists Space AIDS-themed "Witnesses: Against Our Vanishing" also boiled over last week. In a life-like re-creation of humility, and following (but not necessarily in response to) a glowing *New York Times* review of the show, National Endowment of the Arts chairman John E. "I Don't Know About Art, But I Know What I Like" Frohnmayer restored a \$10,000 grant to the gallery, as long as the money doesn't fund the show's catalogue. Why? Well, as we hinted here last week, artist David Wojnarowicz's catalogue essay called Archbishop (and

arch-homophobe) John Cardinal O'Connor a "fat cannibal" and referred to the Roman Catholic church as "a house of walking swastikas." Wojnarowicz also fantasized about drenching Senator Jesse Helms with gasoline and torching him, and about chucking Representative William Danemeyer off the Empire State Building. As reasonable as all that sounds, Frohnmayer objected, saying the essay made the show—which graphically depicts artists' response to AIDS—"political." Hey, when you start mixing imagined politics and real politics—there goes your credibility.

It may be news, it may be entertainment, but the now-low-rated yuppie navel-gazer *thirty-something*, a reconstruction of meaningful neuroses, is still an ad-demographics fave. So when a recent episode showed two gay men—one a show regular—enmeshed abed in friendly post-coital banter, some advertisers yanked their spots. The supposedly enlightened yupscale viewers, in a simulation of liberality, flooded NBC with calls; of 400, 90 percent were negative. According to producer Richard Kramer, letters ran about 50-50. "The negative letters are ungrammatical and misspelled and come from Texas," he said grammatically (but without a drawl). There goes their credibility. Kramer added that there was nothing *outré* about the scene: "The whole point of it was its ordinariness." Then why the ad folks' skittishness? Co-producer Marshall Herskovitz: "Advertisers aren't interested in artistic expression." That's why we're re-evaluating the future of them here.

Closer to home, the State Supreme Court re-created a simulation of justice last week when it left standing an appellate court ruling reducing to involuntary manslaughter the murder convictions of Timothy White,

26, and David Rogers and Donald Clanton, both 23. In a 1984 reconstruction of "fun," the fun-loving boys drove their pickup to Polk Street; there, in pursuit of more fun, they screamed "faggots!" and "queers!" at passers-by, then—news or entertainment?—pummelled a gay man on the head until he fell to the ground. The court ruled the man, John O'Connell, died from "cranial cerebral trauma" when his head hit the curb—not from the blows inflicted by the fun-seeking three.

Mixing imagined justice with real justice—there went its credibility—the appellate court said it "cannot support the inference that the isolated act of striking a person with bare hands in itself imparts a high degree of probability that death will result." White's lawyer told reporters that "a slap and a punch do not make murder." Do they make simulated murder? The three "alleged" (that's a simulation of journalistic fairness) fag-bashers, who were serving sentences of 15 years to life, may be sprung in just a few weeks. We're evaluating the future of them here.

The State Supreme Court may soon have a friend on the U.S. District Court, if, as looks likely, the full Senate confirms President Bush's nomination of homophobic San Francisco lawyer Vaughn Walker to the bench. The Senate Judiciary Committee last week approved Walker's nomination by an 11-2 vote. Walker, whose December 1987 nomination by then-President Reagan was stalled and died, is the charmer who represented the U.S. Olympic committee in its lawsuit to change the name of the San Francisco Gay Olympics to the "Gay Games." There went his credibility. He was also a member of S.F.'s exclusive Olympic Club, which at the time denied membership to blacks and which still refuses women admittance.

Like many in dubious positions of power, Walker is a Stanford University graduate. Like many Stanford graduates, Walker

(Continued on page 5)

Candlelight March Set for Nov. 27

by Allen White

People will gather Monday night at Castro and Market streets and march to City Hall to honor Harvey Milk and George Moscone. This is as it has been every Nov. 27 since the day in 1978 when the San Francisco mayor and the city's first openly gay elected official were assassinated in their City Hall offices by Sup. Dan White.

March participants will assemble at 6:30. The march is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. The march will proceed down Market Street, into Polk Street and then to City Hall.

On the City Hall steps, Sup. Harry Britt and Police Commissioner Glenn Craig will address the crowd. Britt, president of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, was appointed to the supervisory position left vacant when Milk was killed. Craig serves on the Police Commission and for several years was president of the Harvey Milk Les-

bian/Gay Democratic Club.

For the first time, Cleve Jones will not be taking part in the march. Each year since 1978 he has led the march. He, and many others, believe the candlelight march honoring the two officials should be discontinued after 10 years. Continued interest though has kept the march alive, and this year it will be sponsored by the Milk Club.

The themes of a decade ago are just as pronounced today as they were in 1978. Names like Anita Bryant, John Briggs and Jerry Falwell have been replaced by Archbishop John Quinn, Rev. Lloyd Mashore and William Dannemeyer.

In the '70s there was the defeat of gay rights ordinances in Wichita, Kan., St. Paul, Minn., and Eugene, Ore. This year the defeats are closer to home with losses in San Francisco, Concord and Irvine.

(Continued on page 23)



Last year's Harvey Milk-George Moscone Candlelight Memorial March. (Photo: Steve Savage)

Julius Guilty In Death Of Lover

Lyle Julius was convicted by a jury Monday of voluntary manslaughter in the death of David Koerner, his lover.

During the trial, Julius admitted to having an alcohol and cocaine problem.

Shortly after the homicide this spring a neighbor reported to B.A.R. that he had tried to seek psychiatric help for Mr. Julius but the city didn't provide it. ▼

Corrections

In a Nov. 16 story regarding Vaughn Walker, a gay Republican club was described as defunct. Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights merely changed its name to Log Cabin Club.

In the analysis of the Office of Citizen Complaints investigation into the November 1987 murder of George Smoot, Kali Smith, convicted of second degree murder in Smoot's death was incorrectly referred to as a gay man. Smith is heterosexual. ▼

Controversial Judge

Approval Expected For Walker

by Dennis Conkin

The Senate Judiciary Committee has recommended that Vaughn Walker's nomination for a seat on U.S. District Court for Northern California be forwarded to the Senate for approval.

With only Sens. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Paul Simon (D-Ill.) casting no votes, the nomination of Walker, an attorney for the San Francisco law firm of Pillsbury, Madison and Sutro, is expected to be approved before the Senate's Thanksgiving break.

"After sweeping aside all the mud-slinging, the Judiciary Committee latched onto the truth and now indicates its belief that Vaughn Walker is qualified to serve on the Federal Bench," a press spokesman for Sen. Pete Wilson (R-Calif.) told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

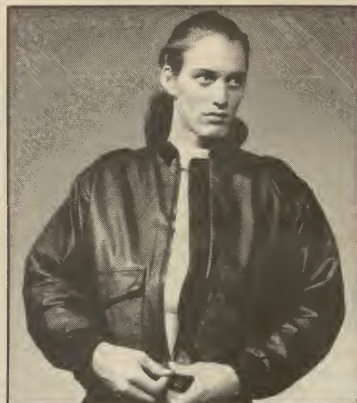
Wilson nominated Walker two years ago for the post, but opposition from women's groups over his membership in the Olympic Club, an all-male club, and concern about his handling of the United States Olympic Committee suit against Dr. Tom Waddell caused his nomination to be killed twice.

Walker did not return *Bay Area Reporter's* phone calls requesting a comment on his nomination.

"The prospect of Vaughn Walker being a federal judge is disturbing as keeping Judge Hampton on the bench in Texas," said T.J. Anthony, a gay activist opposed to Walker's nomination.

Anthony said that activists may attempt to have Walker pledge not to hear cases involving the lesbian and gay community linked to his approval by the Senate. ▼

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ddl Results Unveiled At Community Forum

by Michael C. Botkin

Initial results of the new HIV treatment, ddl, have been presented at an unusual public presentation titled "ddl: A Report to the Community." Dr. Paul Volberding of San Francisco General Hospital, representatives of the National Cancer Institute and Bristol-Myers, and a ddl user described the effects—positive and negative—of the new drug.

A standing-room-only crowd of 300 listened closely to the reports, and afterwards asked searching questions of the experts. The novel presentation, which was preceded by a private meeting between ACT UP and the Bristol-Myers representative, reflected the new dialogue that exists between community activists, researchers, and drug companies.

Pat Christen, executive director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, one of the sponsoring organizations, introduced the speakers and paid special tribute to ACT UP. "For many months representatives of ACT UP have met with Bristol-Myers and the FDA to expand access. This forum tonight would not have happened without their input," she said.

Etienne Hafs, a recent user of the new drug, described his experience with ddl. "I sleep better and longer...but also suffered pretty severe dizziness, photosensitivity, and light-headedness," he said. Like many ddl users, Hafs had to stop his initial use of ddl and had only restarted it the day before. He closed his remarks with some reservations. "Bristol-Myers is donating [ddl] free of charge, but those not on the clinical trials must pay for their own lab work. I'm lucky, I have insurance. But those without it would seem to be precluded," he said.

Dr. Paul Worrall of Bristol-Myers defended his company's policy. "We listened carefully, although, somewhat reluctantly at first...to input from a number of groups, including ACT UP," he said. He stated that the current criteria "satisfy a large group of patients, although not everyone." He explained the need to balance "reasonable regulatory stuff" with the desire to move as fast as possible. "We're in the business of getting [the drugs] approved as quick as we can," he said.

Dr. Robert Yarchoan, of the National Cancer Institute, and Dr. Paul Volberding, of San Fran-

cisco General Hospital, described the results of the recently completed phase I clinical trials. Benefits include an average 50 percent increase in T-cells and a drop in p24 antigen levels, both well accepted signs of successful HIV treatment. Side effects included possible nerve damage and severe pancreatitis, the latter apparently more likely for patients with a history of heavy alcohol use.

"People ask me, 'Which is better, AZT or ddl?' I do not know," said Dr. Yarchoan. "My guess is that there are certain patients for which each is better." It appears that, like AZT, ddl works better for those with higher initial T-cell counts.

After the presentations, questions were taken from the audience. Although one person praised Bristol-Myers for "finally taking risks," most speakers were skeptical or critical. One participant described the presentation as "fine science mixed in with bureaucratic doubletalk." Another complained of being treated like "research meat."

Some of the toughest questions came from Jesse Dobson, of ACT UP's Treatment Issues Committee. "When can we expect a protocol for people with higher T-cell counts?" he asked, and brushed aside Dr. Worrall's attempts to defend the current criteria. "I'm not looking for a justification, I want a date," he said. Dr. Volberding responded

(Continued on page 13)

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Misdirected Advertising?

Bank of America is using a symbol of matrimony to urge the predominantly gay and lesbian Castro Muni Station crowd, who were just told in the Nov. 7 election that they can't even register as domestic partners, to save for their "golden years."

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

French Must Fill Gap Left By Kaiser Purchase

by Michael C. Botkin

At least some patients who lost benefits when French Hospital was purchased by Kaiser HMO are eligible to have the difference made up by French. In resolving the case of Robert Simpson, a disabled PWA covered by French Health Plan, the state Corporation Commission, which regulates HMOs, ruled that French was obligated to "fill the gap" that resulted when Kaiser refused to offer Simpson a plan with benefits comparable to those in his original coverage.

When Kaiser purchased French Hospital, it offered Simpson an individual health plan. "Simpson's original French plan included 12 months of extended benefits for disabled individuals," said Ron Brunk, of AIDS Benefits Counselors, who represented Simpson in his attempts to secure coverage. "Those benefits offered significantly better coverage than

Simpson could get under the Kaiser individual plan, notably reimbursement for prescription drugs."

But the French Health Plan no longer existed, and Brunk could not pin down either French or Kaiser as to who should fill the gap. Each felt the other company was responsible. Simpson was not eligible for a Kaiser group plan, which would have provided equivalent coverage, and as a disabled man could not get coverage from any other insurance company or HMO.

"Finally we filed a complaint with the Corporation Commission," said Brunk. After two months they responded. "The commission said that French must make up the difference between the individual and group coverage, including prescription costs," Brunk said.

Leslie Zamarripa, director of closing operations at French,

acknowledged the ruling. "Robert and I haven't had a chance to talk about the details, but we will make up the difference," she said. She did not know how many other French Health Plan patients were in the same situation as Simpson, but indicated that they too were entitled to "gap" coverage. "I'm trying to find them by identifying covered groups that fall into the same category," she said.

To be eligible, patients would have to have been totally disabled at the time of Kaiser's purchase of French. "We'll initiate coverage for any services which were provided by French, and are not provided for the beneficiary under their current health coverage," said Zamarripa. "This coverage continues until either the person is no longer totally disabled, or until July 31, 1990, whichever comes first," she said.

Zamarripa encouraged individuals who think they might be entitled to this coverage to contact her at: French Hospital Medical Center, PO Box 7883, San Francisco, CA 94120-9889, or to call her at 666-8981.

Drug ddl: No Free Lunch

by Michael C. Botkin

The first HIV treatment besides AZT to complete its phase I clinical trials, ddl, is now entering use. The forum held last week (see news article, this issue) was a great idea, and shows how much more closely activists and researchers are working together these days. But it's a little early to dance in the streets. There are serious limits to ddl and to the activist/drug company unity.

One of the goals of the forum was to allay fears about side effects; another goal was to recruit research subjects. People with HIV for the most part simply don't trust researchers and would clearly prefer to get ddl through "expanded access" instead of clinical trials.

As for side effects, it's too early to say. ddl has done better in its phase I trials than AZT, but how much of this is due to the fact that the people in ddl's safety trials were, on the average, much healthier than those in AZT's? The new drug's side effects are certainly different, but there's no guarantee they'll be less severe. To judge from testimony offered at the forum, lots of people starting up on the drug have trouble tolerating it. Also keep in mind that AZT's limitations didn't become really clear until after it had been in use for a couple of years.

The expanded access aspect is even more sticky. Bristol-Meyers, after talking with ACT UP chapters in New York and San Francisco, did institute alternative to the clinical trials. But these alternatives, as pointed out in ACT UP's literature, are not "parallel tracks." It's actually fairly difficult to qualify for ddl

outside of the trials. To be eligible for expanded access, you must be unable to qualify for the clinical trials. You also must have less than 50 T-cells. And you have to pay for your own lab work, at about \$600 a month! This is not my idea of a "free" drug.

Part of the problem is that Bristol-Meyers is requiring doctors' visits and a battery of tests every 10 days from those in the expanded access, but only once a month from those in the trials. Dr. Paul Worrell of Bristol-Meyers couldn't give much of a reason for this, but suggested that some of the paperwork will be dropped as more is learned about the drug. In the meantime, good luck in finding a doctor willing to deal with the mountain of paperwork demanded by the expanded access, and an insurance company willing to pay for it.

Suppose you have a little choice: AZT devastates your bone marrow and you qualify for a trial. You go on ddl. Two years later, the trial ends, a brilliant success. Don't count on getting ddl for free after the trials: no provision has been made for this, as was the case with AZT. How much will it cost? Bristol-Meyers refuses to say; it may not be much cheaper than AZT is now. On the black market, ddl goes for about \$600 for a month's supply, so they have to undercut that, but not by much.

Bristol-Meyers is not a charity; it is a business. It is in the company's interest to get the drug approved and on the market, earning money, as fast as possible. This fact has provided the basis for an alliance between the drug

company, scientists, and community activists, who can work together on this against the FDA. But Bristol-Meyers has to cover its ass. The voluminous paperwork reduces its liability and also helps to herd likely subjects into the trials. The company is worried about making too firm and broad a commitment to the AZT-intolerant, a group that could number in the tens of thousands very soon. This is why company officials still shy away from a true "parallel track," and will most likely continue to do so until arrangements are made for someone else to pick up, or at least share, the tab.

"I was automatically eliminated because I have a 'fatal' disease," Craig said. "They consider me a dead meat special, a waste of time."

Which brings us, of course, to the insurance companies. Very few insurers will be willing to reimburse for lab tests for an experimental drug. The advice I heard at the forum was that the best bet was to lie and/or cheat, and hope that it takes your insurer a few months or years to figure it out.

The fact that ddl, like AZT, works best for HIVers with more than 400 T-cells is more grist for the insurance mill. All of the "Broder babies" (named for Dr.

Broder of the National Cancer Institute), the AZT-like drugs that stop HIV replication, stop the progression of HIV without reversing its course or undoing its damage. It therefore makes sense to start on them as soon as you can, perhaps even immediately after infection. This is particularly true given that AZT and ddl both have less positive effect and more side effects—potentially fatal—when you start them on a low T-cell count. Current insurance policy won't pay for AZT until your T-cells are low; early results from ddl reinforce the need to change this foolish approach.

So much for the bad news. There is plenty of good news to go with it. Although ddl is not a radical improvement in HIV therapy, it is literally a life-saver, at least potentially, for the thousands of AZT users who are fast becoming unable to tolerate that drug. It may be possible to alternate AZT and ddl, or to combine them in a "cocktail" that works better than either alone. Even if ddl is just as toxic as AZT, the fact that these toxicities are different doubles the options for HIVers in need of treatment.

Even more heartening is the opening of dialogue between the community and the companies. The interests of those involved are clearly different, but both sides now see that they are not, always, completely opposed. Look for a constant shifting of alliances in the future: FDA vs. drug companies plus activists, activists and researchers vs. drug companies, activists and FDA vs. drug companies and insurers. It will be confusing at times, but the net effect will be faster development of treatments. Strong federal leadership could do a lot to reduce the chaos that will likely result, but we know better than to expect that from our current administration.

Dead Meat Special

Richard Craig, a PWA for two years, applied for an Independent Living program sponsored by the Department of Rehabilitation. These programs allow disabled persons to invest their Social Security money in a program that makes them self-sufficient; Craig wanted to take a 500-hour massage certificate course. "I was automatically eliminated because I have a 'fatal' disease," Craig said. "They consider me a dead meat special, a waste of time."

Isabel Questell, of the Independent Living Resource Center, is planning on "going to bat" for Craig before the Social Security Administration. "There's been a change in attitude among PWAs," she said. "They're living longer and better. I have clients with AIDS who've been living six and seven years; they don't want to sit at home, they want to work. Why shouldn't they be eligible? I'm going to challenge the system."

Questell expects to have some successes, but doubts the policy listing AIDS as a "fatal" disease would be changed. "I stand a good chance with candidates who've been diagnosed for a long time and are in stable condition," she said. "I doubt I'll have much luck with someone who's really sick or was just diagnosed. I'll need lots of support from the client's doctors and anyone they work with."

Craig is worried about that, though. "My doctor's hinted that he doesn't consider my condition 'manageable' because I won't take AZT," he said. His case is an example of the stereotype of AIDS as an instant killer, and also of the increasingly difficult situation faced by AZT refuseniks. It seems unfair that some must fight to get HIV treatments, while others fight to not get them.

Ford

(Continued from page 2)

plays the codified game of privilege, hiding his true self from the world.

In a simulation of "hipness," the *Chronicle* came out, came out last week with an exhaustive two-part "People" section spread on San Francisco dance clubs. Gay bars were represented with nose-holding *elan*: the Stud is "a good place to take a tiptoe on the wild side"; the Crystal Pistol's furious Thursday night Chaos is "a happening scene, but don't take Mom"; and Amelia's is a "cool place but [with a] definite sense of crowd solidarity; outsiders [are] not particularly welcome."

Well, outsiders [are] not particularly welcome mainly if they follow *Chron* reporter Liz Lufkin's accompanying fashion tips for the "hip" set. In a simulation of trendiness, Lufkin wrote that guys are currently sporting "leather bomber jackets, worn, for some reason, with the collars turned up." For some [unexplained] reason, they're also wearing "knee-length shorts, worn with a blazer, white socks and loafers; or turtlenecks, often white, worn with wool slacks." Yikes. Lufkin steered gals thusly: "When it comes to skirt length, there's one simple rule to follow: the shorter, the tighter, the better." Writing shorter, tighter and better, Lufkin concluded: "Now that's a fashion statement." No: that's a fashion joke. Snap!

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EDITORIAL & OPINION

Second-Class Citizenship? No Thanks

Thanksgiving is the traditional time of year when we dwell on the positive aspects of our lives. But to the gay and lesbian community in California in particular, and for gays and lesbians throughout the United States, this Thanksgiving calls to mind all of the many things we as a class of human beings do not have to be thankful for.

AIDS continues to eat at our heart and soul, stealing from us some of the best individuals any segment of society has to offer.

We have been assaulted politically from all sides. We have seen AIDS anti-discrimination statutes overturned in Concord and we are seeing similar actions in other areas of the nation. We have seen gay rights ordinances overturned in Irvine, and rejected in Tacoma, Wash., and elsewhere.

We have seen the straight community in so-called liberal San Francisco turn its back on us, choosing to deny us a token gesture of goodwill in the form of domestic partners legislation that would legitimize our relationships, even when no fiscal cost to taxpayers was involved.

We have seen fundamentalists who profess to be Christians, allegedly following a religious philosophy that preaches compassion, love, tolerance and acceptance, reviling us, challenging us, threatening us, hating us. And their strength is growing once again.

We have seen the San Francisco Police Department march into our Castro neighborhood, and with total disregard for law and decency, abuse us and hold our community hostage.

We have seen the California Supreme Court refuse to overturn a Court of Appeal ruling that reduced the charges for the cold-blooded killers of an innocent gay San Francisco man from murder to involuntary manslaughter. A similar action in 1979 triggered the White Night riot.

We have seen the United States Senate rubberstamp the nomination of Vaughn Walker, a homophobic, prejudiced attorney, and elevate him to a federal judgeship.

We have seen the mainstream media refuse to pay us as much attention as we deserve based on our numbers. We have seen corporations refuse to acknowledge our existence in advertising and to advertise in our gay publications. In fact, in the case of the TV program *thirtysomething*, we've seen corporations pull their advertising because the show not only acknowledged us but portrayed us in a favorable light.

With the exception of a few bastions of ultra-liberalism, we live in a straight-dominated society, an unfair society not much different than that blacks are forced to endure in South Africa. And even in that bigoted society we see signs of positive movement. But not here. We see regression.

Here, the straights make the rules, and we must obey. They restrict our basic human rights of love and companionship. They pass laws making our private sexual business illegal. They refuse to grant us equal treatment with regard to federal, state and local income taxes. They preach individual freedom and liberty—but only on their own self-righteous terms. They deny us anti-discrimination laws that guarantee us protection to keep our jobs and housing. They force us to live in the closet, making us afraid to be ourselves. In many respects, we live as second-class citizens.

Prior to the AIDS epidemic, gays and lesbians were on a roll toward justice and equality. Unfortunately, the microscopic virus maimed our

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FROM JAIL ON REDUCED CHARGES) BY THE NECK.



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THERE IS ONLY FANTASY

macroscopic movement. We are now at a critical juncture. We do something now, or forever hold our peace. We fight not only against the virus and AIDS-related discrimination but once again fight for gay rights. And that goes for young gays and lesbians who have come out or are afraid to. It goes for the thirtysomething set in which our new leaders are to be found. It goes for aging homosexuals who may think they are getting too tired to care.

We are partially to blame for letting this straight-based apartheid continue. It's time we take drastic action to force change. Perhaps on a large scale we should suggest to our federal and state legislators that we as a group of more than 20 million taxpayers refuse to pay our taxes until we are treated fairly and equally. Perhaps on a local scale we should make the straights who come to our neighborhoods to gawk at us feel unwelcome. Turnabout is fair play. Remember, we are not the oppressors.

The '80s were a wash. We can't afford to let it happen again in the '90s. We can move forward or lose all we have gained and slip into oblivion. If they can make progress in South Africa and Eastern Europe, we can do it here.

GUEST OPINION

An Open Letter

To President Benno Schmidt, Jr., Yale University

As the keynote speaker for the third annual conference sponsored by the Lesbian and Gay Studies Center at Yale Oct. 27-29, I am writing you to express my outrage at the homophobic violence unleashed against us on Friday evening, violence initiated by the Yale police and escalated by the New Haven police.

In addition, I write to protest the Yale administration's wholly inadequate response to this violence. When we gathered for that response on Saturday morning, we were treated to a series of insults: first, that you did not consider homophobic violence against us as requiring your presence; second, that the very people who suffered or witnessed this violence were told that "the facts were not yet known"; and finally, that the violence itself could not even be named. We were told merely that Yale University supports freedom of expression—a vague and easy claim—and that an impartial investigation would take place.

Participants in the Lesbian and Gay Studies Conference this past weekend included some of the most distinguished and committed gay and lesbian scholars and activists working today. Among them were members of the international community of people fighting against the AIDS epidemic, including people living with AIDS. It is my opinion that until all of us are satisfied with Yale University's support of our work, in-

cluding substantial financial commitments to the Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies, we should no longer lend credibility to Yale's pretense of upholding free expression by our presence at Yale. The university's claim to respect free speech will remain hollow until you, as president, issue an unambiguous public statement condemning all forms of homophobia—named as such. This condemnation must also extend to labeling representations of our sexualities as obscene.

I was deeply impressed and moved by the Yale students and faculty who organized and participated in the Lesbian and Gay Studies conference. They deserve all the credit for the success of the conference—success in the face of the university's variously expressed contempt for us. In the past you have belittled the strong presence at Yale of a gay and lesbian community by catering to, rather than countering, homophobic charges and fears. In light of that injury, and of the added insults of this past weekend, it is now imperative that your gay and lesbian scholars be given not only protection in a clearly homophobic environment, but every encouragement to carry on with their courageous work. This is not to be accomplished by your occasional chats with an openly gay professor, but rather by meeting directly with the full gay constituency at Yale to hear their grievances and to follow their guidance.

The international community of lesbian and gay scholars and activists will not let this matter rest until the demands issued at the conference are met to the letter.

Yours truly, Douglas Crimp

Outpouring of Compassion

★ Thank you!

I am daily amazed at the outpouring of compassion and financial contributions we make here in San Francisco in the midst of the AIDS epidemic. Recently, we have been responding to the earthquake crisis with the same generosity.

We at Kairos House would like to thank all who made our Oct. 15 "Together We Care" party for Caregivers and a fundraiser for us a huge success. Profit was \$5,400. We'd like to thank also "Society's Bad Girls" and all who made the Oct. 21 Halloween party at Cafe San Marcos fun and profitable too. We are very grateful for the \$3,200 donated to Kairos House so that we can continue and expand the services we offer to the Caregivers of HIV-affected persons. Special thanks to the committee: Carl Benson, Dennis Andaya, Michael Casebeer, Scott Douglass, Neil Fitzgerald, Ray Hailey, Marc Lagasse, and Mark Thompson.

Father John McGrann
Director, Kairos House

Condemning Their Loved Ones

★ Recent political setbacks in the progress of gay/lesbian equality make National Coming Out Day more important than ever.

If voters knew they were condemning their loved ones, they'd be much less likely to do so.

Lynn D. Sheppard
Legislative Chair, Stonewall Democratic Club, Los Angeles

Love and Kisses

★ I have a few things to say to those who voted no on the domestic partners ordinance:

I know you had what you thought were valid reasons for your vote. You thought the ordinance would cost you money (even though you voted for transit and public improvement bonds), you believe the traditional family is special, your minister told you gay relationships are not holy. But I don't care what rationalization you had for your no vote, ultimately you cast it because you don't want gays to have the things Prop. S would have provided.

In effect, therefore, what you did was go to the trouble of walking out of your house and down the street to a polling place, and punching a hole in a piece of paper in order to affirmatively deny us gays the rights to visit our sick and mourn our dead. How humane of you. Your vote will not prevent gay relationships. They already exist anyway. But it did have the added attraction for you of keeping us from saying we have a relationship. How effective. Let's just call a spade a spade: your vote was petty, mean-spirited, and bigoted.

Oh, I know, I know. You say you're not really a bigot and you're not anti-gay. You might even believe that yourself. It's just that the traditional family is so special, and you think that gays shouldn't have the rights that go with that. The same rights you take for granted. So you want to retain "special" rights, just for you. That's not bigotry? Sorry, toots, but a rose by any other name still stinks.

Love and kisses for now. But don't worry, we'll be back.

Jeff Schmidt
San Francisco

Shortsightedness

★ I think all the crying over the failure of Proposition S in the recent election is silly. The failure of Prop. S is the fault of all the gay and lesbian voters who were too lazy and selfish to take a few minutes of their time to vote. I am sure that tens of thousands did not bother to vote.

Stop blaming it on those that voted against it. They are entitled to their own shortsightedness and ignorant views. Shame on those that did not vote.

Ayal Beer
San Francisco

Religious Hyenas

★ Once again, the gay community has suffered a setback at the voting booths at the hands of religious fundamentalists.

Two measures, one a small step that would have extended some simple, humane benefits to unmarried partners of city employees, and the other a repeal of a compassionate ordinance forbidding discrimination against AIDS patients in housing and employment, have once again provided an opportunity for religious zealots to wage a cowardly, underhanded campaign of lies, fear-mongering and media manip-

ulation to further their goals of forcing gay citizens back into their closets.

The campaign to stop the domestic partners law was a particularly distasteful exercise in distortion and hate by the Archdiocese of San Francisco, among others. Their completely unfounded claim that the measure would "undermine the sanctity of the traditional family" and that "traditional values would be violated" was a sad example of pandering to the knee-jerk sensibilities of people who have been bombarded by the most dire predictions of how civilization will disintegrate if government provides the most minimal form of recognition to alternative relationships, outside of the Church's own narrow, stifling definition. It was indeed pathetic to see those sick, paranoid old men trying desperately to maintain their stranglehold on what they call "morality," but what is actually culturally entrenched homophobia. But these fundamentalists will not be able to forever hide behind the shield of "traditional values" to justify their steamrolling of gay rights. And if the structure of the "family" is so fragile and tenuous that it can be profoundly threatened by a simple act of extending bereavement rights to an unmarried partner, then the "family" is in more trouble than they can ever imagine.

As for the Concord vote, the people who voted for the repeal should be deeply ashamed that they allowed themselves to be taken in by the shrill, hysterical lies of the Christian ministers who made outrageous claims that keeping the anti-discrimination bill would mean that everybody would have to rent to and hire drug addicts. Their mailing and propaganda were fact-twisting at the very basest level, designed to appeal to the most hateful, irrational emotions in people. I sincerely hope the supporters of the repeal don't find out first-hand how vicious and degrading AIDS discrimination can be when they or a loved one are stricken with the disease. Then they'll see how quickly these fundamentalist ministers rush to their side with "support."

The only comfort I get from these unfortunate events is a renewed conviction that there must be a special place in the lower depths of hell reserved for those so-called "men of God" who do so very much to crush the true Christian spirit of love and compassion in this world. But, as despicable and loathsome as these religious hyenas are, I can't help thinking the true villains of this dismal election day are the people who, through ignorance, laziness or some other bad excuse, did not take that first small step to stop the fundamentalist rampage, the step that leads to the voting booth. This is particularly distressing in the case of the domestic partners law, which lost by a very slim margin, but is getting enormous national publicity as a defeat for gay rights. The domestic partners law did not directly touch everybody's life, but it was very relevant to the struggle gay people are waging to be able to live their lives and engage in relationships that they see fit. Every gay person in San Francisco had a stake in the matter. Rights denied to some of us are rights denied to all of us.

I hope that all gay men who did not vote because they were too busy sucking down cocktails at the local bar remember that the next time the Christian neo-Nazis make their next assault on gay rights, which they undoubtedly will, given their successes on November 7. Because someday, instead of thinking about where their next trick is coming from or Donna Summer's new single, they may be wondering how they lost their job or got thrown out of their apartment, just because they were gay. It can happen here, and any gay person who thinks it can't deserves whatever happens to them.

Stephen F. Guida
Burlingame

One More Year

★ Now we hear from Bob Lurie (master blackmailer) that he intends to stay in Candlestick Park for one more year. Every fiber in my body tells me that next November we will all be fighting the same battle all over again. he and Mayor Agnes... er, excuse me, Agnos, are terribly saddened that they came so close to winning that if it wasn't for the absentee ballots they would have succeeded.

Meanwhile, after reading about all this in the various newspapers and watching it all over TV, I haven't heard one word from Agnos or Lurie about the loss of domestic partners. I know all these trips to our bars were for one reason—support for Prop. P. The obvious omission of any mention of the loss of Prop. S should tell everyone in the gay and lesbian communities just how much we can trust and depend upon straight politicians.

Also, did you know that at the same time Lurie was blackmailing the citizens of San Francisco he was doing the same to the people of Arizona? They were told that if they didn't give him a new training park he was going to train the team in Florida. Well, they voted for a new park.

Thank God the citizens of San Francisco did not succumb to the threats of Lurie and the intense sleazy tactics of Agnos—at least for now.

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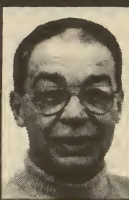
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FEATURES

A Splintered Community

★ So Prop. S lost by a slim margin. It amazes me who we find in that margin. I heard someone say, "Good, I voted against it!" No wonder our community seems so splintered. It seems as though some prima donnas will find any excuse to vote against a proposition because of their personal preferences. "God, I hate Harry Britt" or "I wish Feinstein was still mayor." Or is it their wallets? Or is it that they can't seem to get the picture of Bay Area politics?

There are very clear lines drawn and two very clear sides. The gay community is again (so what's new) being attacked by the army of pin-headed Christian bigots who would as soon wall up Castro (a la Warsaw), round us up, and gas us. To collaborate with these people and vote with them instead of against them is to again splinter our fragile community.

They get stronger every election using their fear and hate tactics to mobilize their community clans (sic?) against us. Imagine voting out an anti-discrimination law. They voted for discrimination. They are the same people that fought Prop. S.

So Prop. S wasn't all-inclusive. It said, "Yes, you are valid legally." Perhaps we should look at elections the way the Church of the Most Holy Bigotry does. Everything threatens your home, family and community, so you vote as if your life depends on it. And you vote in a bloc if specific legislation directly touches your life.

There are a lot of little Roy Cohns in our community whose teeny little peckers get hard when they see headlines like "Gay community suffers two major setbacks." They are proud of their votes because they don't follow the crowd. They vote with their wallets, with their smugness, and then they tell you about their admirable deed.

So move to Orange County, move to Concord. I hear there's a lot of people who vote like you. Except don't forget to butch it up or you may take a trip on a train and get offered a nice warm shower in a nice big room with a bunch of other nice people like you.

Michael S. Eckenrode
San Francisco

A World of Change

★ The defeat of the domestic partners legislation pointed out to me that Harry Britt is quite an astute politician. When the original measure made it through the Supervisors, it was criticized from within the gay/lesbian community for being too weak. I see now that Harry was trying for minimal legislation so that we could get the concept of domestic partners in law, to create a beachhead from which we could build further. Unfortunately, Harry was slightly optimistic, as the election results have shown, but I think he should not be faulted for his optimism, but rather praised for it. Harry, thanks for what you have done and let's keep at it! We have made great strides, and we will continue to do so.

Harry Hay, founder of the Mattachine Society, in his "Remarks for the Stonewall Rebellion's Twentieth Anniversary" (RFD #59, Fall 1989), points out that in a nationwide opinion poll, 83 percent of Americans responded in 1975 that they believed that homosexuality was wrong. A similar poll in 1985 showed 81 percent responding that they believed homosexuality to be wrong. Imagine that! They think we are immoral. The message of this poll and the message from the polling places here in San Francisco is clear—we still have a ways to go to win acceptance.

One response to this hostility from the heterosexual majority would be to retreat further into our enclaves or even into our closets. I suggest, however, that we step out and greet these people.

Several times over the years I have attended social events with a particular group of people whom I know through a spiritual group. Generally I have felt ill at each in these social events, largely because I felt judged for being non-hetero. Last week I attended another such event, this time with my lover, and I went in with the attitude that I am fine, my lover is fine, our relationship is fine, and these people are fine. Well, I was met with an attitude of complete acceptance, and I think that my attitude is what made the difference. I am willing to believe that my previous uncomfortable experiences were due to my own negative thoughts being reflected back at me. Perhaps we can all learn from my lesson.

Let's all strive to remember that we are OK, we are OK as lesbians, as gay men, as bisexuals. We have nothing to be ashamed of. We have a job of education of ourselves and of the world of people around us. Some of us may use confrontation; that does not feel appropriate to me, but I will not judge it wrong. Let's imagine everyone in the world as future friends and let's treat them as such. We have a world to change, and we can do it.

Top Mapp
San Francisco

Hate, Jesse, Hate

★ So now Jesse Helms is blocking the Hate Crimes Bill unless he can attach language which clearly shows his continuing obsession with his own hate directed at homosexuals. The man has obstructed U.S. Senate action, delaying delivery of AZT and fostering discrimination against gays from one issue to the next every chance he gets. Is there not another of the 99 senators equally effective or powerful in parliamentary maneuvering?

What we have here is one of this nation's Most Wanted Criminals of Hate Crimes allowed to perform his hate crimes within the U.S. Senate.

I have never met anyone from North Carolina. Do they all wear white sheets? Do they have an educational system? Maybe we should visit there. After all, homosexuality must be running rampant throughout Jesse's state of North Carolina.

It is unconscionable why the voters of North Carolina elected and re-elected this self-appointed Grand Dragon. It is even more so that he has not been recalled.

Jerry Albert
San Francisco

The American Pastime

★ This is a rebuttal to a letter written to you by Robert Cole and printed in the October 5 edition of B.A.R.

Mr. Cole:

If the only times you ever got called a "faggot" were in gyms and/or locker rooms, it is obvious that you and I are living on different planets. Get real! Are you living in an ivory tower or what? The only times I have been discriminated against at a baseball game is when I am not rooting for the home team. For instance, rooting for the Giants when I am at Shea in New York. When I go to games I don't make it known to the world that I am gay. My private life is just that: private. I go out to the ballpark just to have fun, eat hot dogs and drink watered-down beer and yell. You call baseball fans "homophobic, sexist, alcoholics and fascists." Where the hell do you get off with that assumption.

I would like to remind you, Mr. Cole, if you haven't ever noticed, that the gay and lesbian community of the greater Bay Area supports our teams. It is a means of diversion from all the terrible things we have to face on a daily basis. Baseball and all its craziness brings us together. It is like a cushion between the real world and the make-believe.

You can stay in your ivory tower, for all I care. Just leave us "homophobes, sexist, alcoholics and fascists" alone. As it is said, "don't tread on me." After all, baseball is the American pastime, and believe me, Mr. Cole, it is going to remain that way.

Peter J. Davey
San Francisco

Prediction for the '90s

★ Dear de Editors:

Speaking of laughingstocks of the gay community, Zsa Zsa keeps bragging that her great talent is catching husbands, and she's only had eight!

My first Strange Prediction for the '90s: Cher and Rob Lowe. She'll cure him of his dangerous fixation on underage girls, and his singing will remind her of Sonny.

Love,
Strange de Jim
San Francisco

Gross Old Party

★ It really turns my stomach inside out, and makes me want to puke, when I read about gay Republicans. This is like Jews in Europe in the early 1930s clamoring for Adolf Hitler and the Nazi party to exterminate them.

These gay Republicans would be the first to turn in their own. The Republican Party is now mostly made up of racists, homophobes, the party of the wealthy and greedy.

Over the past two decades, the worst presidents were Nixon, Reagan and Bush, and they were all evil, crooked, lying Republicans.

The 1990s should be a very interesting decade, with millions of people homeless, out of work, and a complete erosion of civil rights.

"A kinder, gentler nation"—don't be a fool.

Shel Myman
Oakland

LETTERS

The Bishops and AIDS Prevention

★ The nation's Roman Catholic bishops have come up with a novel approach to AIDS prevention. I guess only time will tell which is more effective: using condoms or having your head up your ass.

Richard Harrison
San Francisco

The Funeral Prepayment Ploy

★ Many Californians, the elderly most of all, fear that their death may find them, or their survivors, unable to pay for final services. At times there are no survivors.

That fear, voiced or not, has spawned an industry which floods mailboxes with offers purporting to sell "peace of mind," for which they have coined the word "pre-need." Those who choose to prepay do so by purchasing a trust agreement which comes under the authority of the State Board of Funeral Directors & Embalmers, an agency of the Department of Consumer Affairs. The board authorizes the mortuaries, or their designated trustees, to charge an annual fee of 2½ percent of the principal for administrative costs. The beneficiaries of the fee felt that 2½ percent is insufficient and twice secured an increase to 4 percent through legislation. Both times, governors Jerry Brown and George Deukmejian, respectively, vetoed the bills as not being in the public interest. This year the increase to 4 percent was approved by the State Board of Funeral Directors, an appointed regulatory agency. It must now be approved by the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

The proposed increase will benefit the sellers, not the buyers. The buyers, the ultimate consumers, so to speak, are represented by 14 nonprofit memorial and funeral societies covering California from Eureka to San Diego and speaking on behalf of over 100,000 members through their California Federation.

On October 14, the Federation, at its annual meeting, unanimously resolved: (1) To request the legislature to investigate the decision by the Board of Funeral Directors regarding the increase and (2) To request member societies to alert and inform their representatives in the Assembly and in the Senate and urge them to support the Federation's opposition to the increase.

Actually, all Californians ought to show their collective indignation, as they did regarding insurance rates. There comes a time when a backlash is called for. The time is now.

Write, call or cable your elected representative or write Mr. James Allen, Executive Director, State Board of Funeral Directors & Embalmers, 1020 N Street, Rm 418, Sacramento, CA 95814; (916) 445-2413.

David Klugman
President, California Federation of
Memorial and Funeral Societies

Feeding Racism

★ Both the mainstream papers and the *B.A.R.* have implied that Prop. S's defeat was due to homophobia within the minority communities, particularly the black and Asian communities. This analysis continues to feed the myth that there is more homophobia among people of color than white people.

The fact of the matter is that we got clobbered in the absentee vote, which is mostly white and mostly conservative. And we did not do the work we could have with progressive and liberal voters throughout San Francisco.

The strategy of Prop. S was to get the gay vote out. That we did to some extent. What we failed to do was fully use this opportunity to really talk to straight San Franciscans of all races about domestic partnership. There are many reasons for this—including financial limitations and the impact of the earthquake—all of which we need to look at seriously.

Rather than feeding into the already too prevalent racism within the lesbian/gay community, let us look at our own strengths and weaknesses that emerged in this campaign, and try to understand what we could have done differently and need to do differently next time around.

Keep hope alive.

Pam David
San Francisco

A New Low

★ Congratulations for reaching a new low in editorial judgment. By allowing the article "A Dark Day for Gay Rights" to take cover page on your Nov. 9 issue, you are supporting racist, insensitive journalism. Allen White's article places the blame unfairly on minority communities, the black and Asian

communities. This scapegoating in the wake of an electoral failure by the gay community is divisive, mean-spirited and just plain offensive.

Let's accurately place the blame where it really lies: in the gay community. Only two thousand more gay people would have turned the tide. Where were all the gay people who were registered to vote but didn't bother? It's inexcusable for gay people not to vote in any election, because we are discriminated against. It's even more inexcusable when we have issues on the ballot dear to our hearts. There is no one else to blame but ourselves. Yet Mr. White chooses to blame someone else, and your editors allowed this scapegoating to take front page.

If you need a scapegoat, why not choose the appropriate targets? The vote was much more anti-S in the West of Twin Peaks and the Excelsior. Why not blame the rich for this loss? Or if you need a target more personalized, perhaps Archbishop Quinn and the entire Catholic population of San Francisco, or the influx of the Traditional Values Coalition into the city's politics?

Blaming the black and Asian community is hardly even sensible, since the Fillmore/Western Addition area supported S. Reverend Cecil Williams, a black minister, supported S. So did Black and White Men Together. So did many black and Asian people working in both the straight and gay minority communities.

Blaming blacks and Asians for this defeat is a stupid, racist attack on minorities who are already under pressure from the mainstream white power structure. It defeats the efforts of many people who are already supportive of gay rights in these communities. It defeats the gay community's own efforts to continue building bridges between these communities.

In the interests of fair and responsible journalism, if you don't provide accurate information, at least could you consider not setting bridges on fire yourselves?

Thomas J. Falcon
San Francisco

Editor's Note: The figures, unfortunately, speak for themselves. According to a detailed precinct analysis performed by the respected San Francisco pollster David Binder, "The top 35 black precincts [in the city] gave only 42 percent support to Proposition S. The top Asian precincts were 43 percent for S, and the top Hispanic precincts were 46 percent yes on S." Contrary to Mr. Falcon's assertion, the turnout in gay-identified precincts was the heaviest in the city.

It may be that ethnic minorities failed to support the measure in large numbers because they perceived, correctly, that there was little in it for them. Supervisor Harry Britt, in fact, declared his domestic partners ordinance to be specifically a gay issue and denigrated the concerns of those, such as the Bay Area Reporter, who suggested that it would be more humane—not to mention politically smart—to expand the scope of the legislation to include nontraditional extended families. It is our strong hope that, next time, a more inclusive approach is taken. ▼

Get Real

★ With the defeat of Prop. S, I hope that our three Democratic clubs along with their leaders are appropriately ashamed and embarrassed for spending so much time endorsing and working on ballparks and circuses. What party favors will those "leaders" be receiving for having consorted and pussyfooted with Agnos? They should be drummed out of their clubs, or it is time for a fourth gay Democratic club.

I hope we have long memories about the failure of the Hispanic, Asian, and especially the black communities to support Prop. S. When these fake liberals come crawling to the progressive community for some issue of theirs, we should say, "Get real!"

Ned Tuck
San Francisco


Quid Pro Quo

★ I am so disappointed that blacks and Asians went against the domestic partners initiative that I can't see straight. I expected it from so-called "Christians" and conservatives, but not from these groups.

Black and Asian candidates have always received heavy support from the gay community; Supervisors Hsieh, Ward, Kennedy as well as Willie Brown are holding office in part because of our support.

I propose that we withhold our support for these candidates until a domestic partners law is passed. I think every one of these office holders could have worked harder for Prop. S if they had wanted to. They cannot expect us to be there for them without the favor being returned.

Ron Carnevale
San Francisco



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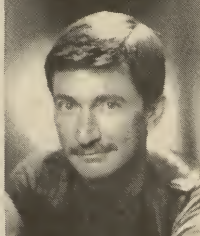
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Wayne Friday

Goodbye to The Giants

The narrow defeat by the voters earlier this month of the downtown ballpark definitely means bye-bye for the Giants. There will not be another vote on a new ballpark; this has been tried twice and lost twice, so after next season the National League Champs are outta here.

This column has learned, from the most reliable of sources, that San Franciscan **Bob Lurie**, who paid less than \$12 million for the team, has already lined up a local group that intends to put up around \$70 million for the Giants, then sell the team later, making a cool profit of around \$15 million, to a buyer in either Denver or St. Petersburg, Florida. Lurie gets off the hook (meaning, that he's not the one sending the Giants to an out-of-town home), everyone involved makes fast big bucks, and everyone wins—except, of course, San Francisco, which loses a major league baseball team. Crazy, you say? You can bet on it.



Sup. Angela Alioto.

(Photo: S. Savage)

The Senate ethics committee formally opened inquiries last week into the growing big-money scandal in which five senators took nearly \$1.5 million from the failed Lincoln Savings & Loan of Irvine, Calif., after interceding with federal regulators on its behalf. Luckily for them, none of the five involved (**DeConcini** [D] and **McCain** [R] of Arizona; **Glenn** [D] of Ohio; **Riegle** [D] of Mich.; and **Cranston** of California) face re-election next year, but the political machinery is already moving in this state, with Democrats quietly maneuvering to push Cranston aside. Among those said to be interested in taking on Cranston are Rep. **Mel Levine** of Los Angeles, former governor **Jerry Brown**, Rep. **Barbara Boxer**, and (the latest name being spoken) our own Mayor **Art Agnos**.

The abortion issue promises to be the hottest political topic in next year's elections. Thirty-four Senate seats, 36 governorships and all 435 House seats will be up for grabs, and the Republicans are the most nervous about the



Jesse Jackson.

pro-choice issue. The National GOP Governors, meeting last week in South Carolina, grappled with the issue, and a number of them urged their party, and President Bush in particular, to change its strong anti-abortion stance or face disaster at the polls. Even the AFL-CIO, meeting in convention in D.C. last week, sidestepped abortion, although most national organizations long ago chose sides in the issue that now dominates America's political scene. The huge labor union opted instead for a resolution promising to study the question of which side organized labor should support.

Those close to **Dianne Feinstein**, who was considered all but out of the race a couple of weeks ago, now say that she and her wealthy husband are about to dump a substantial personal bundle of money into her gubernatorial campaign—\$3 million, according to one reliable account. With Feinstein on the verge of hiring the Los Angeles consulting firm operated by **Carl D'Agostino** and **Michael Bertram**, the Democratic primary could get hot yet.

Investigators in Springfield, Mo., are saying that arson caused the fire last week that destroyed the home of **Brad Evans**, 22, a vocal backer of the production of *The Normal Heart* that is currently playing at Southwest Missouri State University. The AIDS-themed play is under attack by right-wing fundamentalists as supposedly promoting homosexuality.

The California Supreme Court last week refused to reverse an appellate court ruling that reduced the murder conviction of the three Vallejo punks who viciously attacked and murdered **John O'Connell** on Polk Street. This means the three murderers will be released within weeks. But not to worry: **Maureen Kallins**, the attorney for one of them, **Timothy White**, tells us that he

"is a different person now—he has grown many more years than the five years he has been in prison." Who next? **Sirhan Sirhan**? **Ramon Salcido**? **Charlie Manson**?

I'm not saying they don't deserve it, but just for the record, both Reps. **Pelosi** and **Boxer** voted for that whopping congressional pay raise last week.

If it makes them feel any better, gays and lesbians were told last week that they are still welcome in the city of Irvine as long as they don't let anyone know what they are. **Mike Shea** and **Scott Porter**, two of the leaders in the Irvine Values Coalition, the group that successfully overturned civil rights protection for gays from that city's ordinance, held a press conference this week and said, "Homosexuals, like any other citizens, are welcome in the city of Irvine; we just don't want it promoted in Irvine. It's OK if they don't flaunt it!" The Values Coalition leaders said the initiative's success doesn't mean "open season on homosexuals," but I don't think I would want to be among the reported 10,000 gays and lesbians in the Orange County City very long.

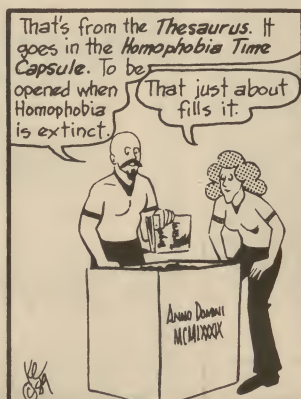
Yes, that was Assemblyman **Tom Hayden** and his current, **Vicky Rideout**, you thought you saw at that trendy Civic Center restaurant last Friday.

Jesse Jackson is crisscrossing the country telling anyone who will listen that he is the one who deserves the credit for **David Dinkins** being the first black mayor of New York City and **Doug Wilder** becoming the first black ever elected governor. Meanwhile, Virginia's governor-elect **Wilder** snapped that Jackson's claim that he helped elect him "is the same as saying I'm indebted to P.B.S. Pinchback." Pinchback, the nation's only other black governor, was Louisiana's appointed acting governor for 43 days in the 1870s.

Friends of Supervisor **Angela Alioto**—one of the better supes, in my opinion—are holding a dinner in her honor December 5th at the Fairmont; 6:30 cocktails; 7:30 dinner (\$250 per ticket—550-0294 for info).

My quote of the week (which went unnoticed by the dailies): former N.Y. Rep. **Bella Abzug**, speaking at the San Francisco pro-choice rally last Sunday: "We [women] will never again return to the coathanger in the back alley, any more than gays or lesbians will ever return to the closet." ▼

MURPHY'S MANOR



by Kurt Erichsen

A Paragraph of Stardom

So when are you going to write a column about me?"

If I've heard it once, I've heard it a thousand times, usually from people whose life stories are about as interesting as that of Millard Fillmore—except that at least *he* grew up to be president.

My standard response is to summon all the tact and sensitivity at my command and answer, "When frogs fly, honey."

Occasionally, however, some forceful individual will break through the wall of skepticism, which serves as my very own unfortunate-but-necessary barrier reef, and convince me that he or she really does have a story worth telling. Then I'm all ears.

Really I am, for I honestly believe that there are a thousand fascinating tales in the Big City. Trouble is, in this particular big city there are nearly a million people. You figure the odds.

Given this situation, I suppose I ought to be grateful for those who willingly offer themselves as fodder for my next column and thus spare me the trouble of seeking diamonds in the rough all by my lonesome. Unfortunately, I'm something of a control queen, see? That means I like to be the one who does the choosing, not the other way around.

That's why, a few weeks ago, I decided to turn the tables on my predators by giving them what they wanted—the chance to appear in the paper—but only if they played by my rules. I opened the column to all comers but made a contest of it, winner take all. This is how it worked:

First, I lugged an ironing board down to the corner of Castro and 18th. (I didn't have a card table.) Then I taped the following sign to the front: "BE A STAR! Earn your 15 minutes of fame. Talk to the B.A.R.!" On top, I placed a stack of papers headlined, "Why I Believe Mike Hippler Should Write a Column About Me." Finally, I began hawking my wares.

Foot traffic was heavy on the street because of the beautiful Sunday weather, and I thought it would take about an hour to get 50 people or so to play along. And of those 50, I reasoned, surely one would have a story worth telling. Ah, optimism. As it happened, I stood on the street for more than three hours and returned home, exhausted, with only 13 completed forms in my notebook.

One of the problems was the set of rules I established.

"Friends and relatives not eligible," I cheerfully told acquaintances who passed.

They took their revenge as only loving comrades can.

"What are you doing, Mike? You must be desperate for a column this week," Tom Boyer said.

"This is a new low, even for you," Tom Finan said.

I also ruled out accepting applications from people who have already had their 15 minutes of fame—or longer. On the corner I spotted Roberta Achtenberg (the politician), T.J. Anthony (the activist), Jim Mitulski (the preacher), and Tony Jasinski (the athlete). None were eligible (not that they noticed—or cared). All had seen their names in print too many times before.

Still, who would have thought I would have had to work so hard to convince people to let me write about them?

"Want to be in the paper?" I accosted total strangers. "Want to be a star?"

"I'm already a star," one smug individual replied.

A far less confident soul answered, "No, there's nothing interesting about my life, believe me."

I felt as if I were the operator of the Test Your Strength machine at the local carnival—only this machine had been renamed Test Your Ego.

Some people, naturally, preferred to test their animosity.

"Why should I want to be in the B.A.R.?" snarled one disgruntled pedestrian, seething with hostility. "It's a trashy paper, anyway."

Others not only attacked the paper, they also attacked the column.

"Too depressing," they said. And some had the audacity to criticize me personally. "So what do you think you're doing, Hippler? Taking in laundry to supplement your income?"

"God loves you too," I deadpanned.

Then there were those who totally ignored my purpose for being there—why I should write a column about *them*—and suggested alternative topics instead. One man said I should write about the AIDS organization he founded; another said I should write about police harassment of garage sales. Still another suggested the Elephant Walk bar.

"Why is it still closed?" he asked. "Is it a conspiracy? An insurance scam?"

In spite of these difficulties, the day was not entirely wasted, for I did manage to round up 13 possible subjects for fame and glory. The 13, and their reasons:

Keith Harris, 30, a salesperson at Headlines: "Because I'm fashion-conscious and know where the gay fashion world is headed." ("Actually, because he has nice tits and a firm butt," added his friend.)

Marv Smith, 36, a "visual display merchant" at the Emporium, thought I should write about him because he is husband-hunting and recognized this as a good opportunity to land one. (If you're interested, Marv is looking for someone "fairly secure, successful, not a whole lot into 'the scene,' and comfortable to be with." Call him at . . . no, I don't have permission.)

Tara Marlowe, 21, a student at S.F. State: "Because I grew up in San Francisco and lived in the projects at Page and Webster. Also because my Mom hung out with Janis Joplin and the Diggers back in the '60s. But I don't trust journalists, so forget it."

Richard Pastor, 30-something, actor/artist/singer/etc.: "Because I was in the same movie as Ann Block (*Shuttlecock*), and somebody wrote an article about her, but they didn't write one about me. True, I only had four lines, but still. . ."

Uri Lotan, 38 foreign correspondent for *Hadashoth*, an Israeli newspaper: "Because I have written for a newspaper for many years, and I'd like to see what it's like to be on the other side for a change."

Justin Regnier, 12, student: "Because I go to Everett Middle

School, and it's a great place. We have a diverse mix of people, all kinds. If you really want to be out there, people won't mess with you. If you want to be yourself, people respect that."

Chris Ryan, 27, world traveler, currently unemployed: "Because I'm a connoisseur of dangerous and/or embarrassing moments in exotic places, like the time I was bit by a scorpion at the top of the Jaguar temple in Tikal, Guatemala, or the time I threw up down the side of a palace in India."

Leslie Krongold, 27, filmmaker: "Because I'm working on two videos relating to the lesbian community, one a dance film set at the windmills in Livermore, the other a documentary about addiction and recovery."

Maxwell T. Smart, 41: "Because I'm one of the most varied and experienced people you will meet. I just got out of the Army after 20 years and returned to school as a full-time student; I was a secular priest for 12 years in the Catholic church; I run a 16-unit apartment complex in the Tenderloin; I work as the head of security at the S.F. State Bookstore; and I'm in the midst of a divorce."

Robert Macanas, 32, unit staff reviewer for an insurance company: "Because I produce straight beauty pageants in the Filipino community, including Miss Philippines America, Miss Asian California, Miss Teen Filipinas U.S.A., and Mr. Asia-America." (Robert also entered a pageant himself this year—the



Columnist Mike Hippler.

(Photo: Rink)

Closet Ball, where he was selected Miss Congeniality.)

Vince Quackenbush, 38, doorman and would-be union agent: "Because I am a lesbian/gay liberationist. . . and 'small d' democrat." (For the record, Vince is *not* overly fond of most "so-called gay activists and politicians" in this city.)

Joe O'Neil, 36, currently on disability: "Because this city has been my home for the last 13 years and as of yet no 15 minutes of fame. Not true. I was one of 11 people who was selected as San

Francisco AIDS Foundation Volunteers of the Month in November." (Joe also volunteers for other AIDS organizations, despite the limitations imposed by his ARC diagnosis, because "I can still get around, and I have brothers and sisters who can't, so it's up to me.")

Pete Dal Poggetti, 45, special ed teacher: "Because I always read the B.A.R. and rarely miss Mike's column."

So who is it gonna be, folks? (Remember, sycophants score extra.) Next week: The Lucky Winner. ▼

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Editorial Choices

The Chronicle's Coverage Of Domestic Partners

by Henry Mach

All newspapers are faced, on a daily basis, with an endless series of editorial choices and decisions that have a profound effect on what the public knows and what opinions the public forms about the issues of the day. When is a demonstration big enough to warrant coverage? When is a defeat unexpected enough to be termed "stunning"? The decisions on these questions determine not only what gets covered but how it is played. Prominent placement guarantees that the information in an article will get disseminated.

Editorial decisions are made also in the course of writing an article. Information that is buried at the bottom often will be ignored. (Studies show a 70 percent drop in readers at the point that a front-page newspaper story is continued on another page.) And while objectivity is the rule of thumb at most major dailies, a reporter can find hidden power in the skillful use of adjectives—is a new idea "controversial," "progressive," "troubling," or "generally favored by voters"?

From July 7, the day after San Francisco's domestic partners law was suspended, through Election Day, Nov. 7, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, Northern California's largest newspaper, ran at least 12 articles and columns that referred to domestic partners in their headlines. Numerous other

articles about the election included references to domestic partners, but the *Chronicle's* election coverage almost always began with the ballpark referendum.

To Begin With...

When right-wing Christians first submitted petitions to force the issue of domestic partners onto the November ballot in the form of Proposition S, the news warranted front-page attention at the *Chronicle*. There were four front-page articles on the subject within the first month—July 7 through Aug. 7. (However, the Nov. 8 edition, announcing the defeat of the ordinance at the polls, was the first time the issue was given placement at the top of the *Chronicle's* first page.)

The *Chronicle's* first article after the suspension of the ordinance reported, "Many religious leaders have condemned the domestic partners law as a threat to the traditional family." Comments from disappointed gay couples who arrived at City Hall only to discover they could not register their relationships were relegated to the end of the story.

A July 10 article, "How Religious Groups Stopped Partners Law," by Don Lattin, *Chronicle* religion writer, began with a description of the prayers at Rev. McIlhenny's "small, pink stucco church... an unassuming com-

mand post for a petition drive that stunned the city's liberal establishment." It was not until the article jumped onto the back page that the 30 percent of people still reading found out that Phyllis Schlafly's Eagle Forum and other out-of-town right-wing groups were behind the petition drive.

On July 31, the bottom of the *Chronicle's* first page announced, "Domestic Partners Law May Run Afoul of the IRS." This article explained that the Internal Revenue Service code taking effect Oct. 1 limited companies and municipalities from extending benefits to other than spouses or legal dependents of employees. There were ominous warnings of threats to the tax-free status of all health benefits to city workers in a city granting benefits to domestic partners.

On Aug. 7 a front-page article reported a poll finding that the domestic partners legislation was favored by 54 percent of San Francisco residents, with 36 percent opposed.

At that point, Prop. S seemed to take a back seat to the ballpark, and the only other front-page domestic partners article before the election was "Voter Turn-Out Crucial for Domestic Partners," Sept. 6.

The Sound of Silence

After the initial spate of articles, the *Chronicle's* news coverage of the domestic partners issue became erratic.

On Sept. 18 the *Chronicle* ran an article titled, "Clergy Pressured on Partners Law." This 40 inches of copy on an inside page informed readers that "both sides... are trying to seize the moral high ground," but that

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1989

Ballpark Narrowly

Domestic Partners Measure Fails by



First Black Mayor for New York



S.F. Bon

"mainline Protestant and Jewish leaders in San Francisco are avoiding the moral and political minefield of the domestic partners issue."

Following that was a news blackout of almost a month.

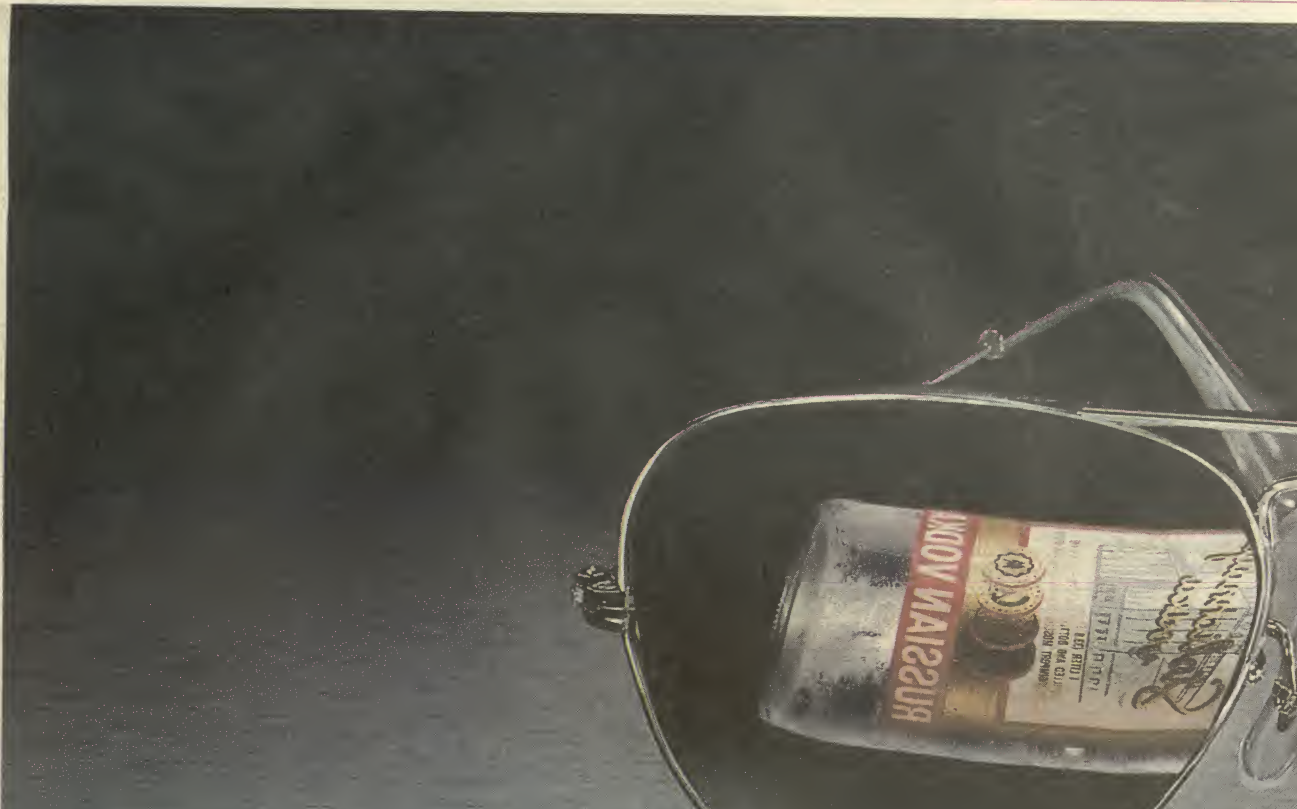
An Oct. 16 article, "Domestic Partners Debate May Key on Economics," was the first to begin with pro-domestic partners views, quoting Yes on S campaign manager Dick Pabich. This 40 inches of copy balanced Pabich saying, "It won't cost anything" with No on S campaign manager David Gilmour saying, "It sets the stage for it to cost just a ton of money..."

This generally well-balanced article was given a troubling slant because of a layout decision. It shared a page with Randy Shilts' column, AIDS/The Inside Story, which began with an anecdote about an 80-year-old lifelong resident of San Francisco who had died alone, having fallen between the cracks of the social service

system, while a young AIDS patient who had moved to San Francisco five months earlier "was served by a hospice program, tended by grief counseling volunteers, had access to home health care services, had meals delivered to his home and would even have his burial expenses paid for by a private group."

The point of Shilts' piece was that "80 percent of Americans agree that this country needs to change the way it finances health care." But those casual readers hooked by Shilts' catchy lead were given a curious reflection on the domestic partners issue that shared the page.

In the closing days of the campaign, the ballpark proposition made it onto the front page of the *Chronicle* every day for more than a week. The Nov. 6 installation, "D.A. Probes 'Hit Pieces' on Ballpark," included an addendum stating, "Meanwhile, proponents of the domestic partners proposition and former Mayor



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S.F. Passes
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THE KEY VOTES

Dianne Feinstein cried foul yesterday over a mailing suggesting that Feinstein opposes Prop. S, when in fact she has not taken a position and did not grant permission to use her picture."

How many San Franciscans who received the flyer bearing Feinstein's anti-domestic partners quotes noticed these two and a half inches at the bottom right hand corner of the back page?

Worthy of Comment

It is hard to find fault with the *Chronicle's* commentary pieces that mentioned domestic partners.

Shilts used his Oct. 30 column to make an outright plea for "Gay Nuptials" as a good public health measure. Clarifying that "the law will not cost taxpayers one cent," and accusing the No on S campaign of being "particularly vicious in the wake of the recent earthquake," he wrote:

"There's a cruel incongruity here. On one hand, some conservative clerics have fiercely criticized gay men for not

rushing into monogamous relationships with the advent of AIDS. Now the same clergymen are violently opposing a law that could foster such pairings. Gay men quite literally are damned if they do and damned if they don't."

Free-lance San Francisco writer Sheila Koren was given the Open Forum space Aug. 7 for "No Benefits on the Fringe." After describing the domestic life that she and her lover share with their children, she asked simply how token acceptance of their family unit could affront anyone's morals.

The *Chronicle's* pre-election editorial endorsed a yes vote on Prop. S, even as it cautioned that the "economic aspect of such a domestic arrangement has its troubling side."

Gerald Nachman's Nov. 7 column, "Together Till Prop. S Do You Part," was a satiric look at the angst of "long-time live-in pals, Elsie and Fenton Trendy." The disturbing element was not that Nachman poked fun at the domestic partners issue, but that this was the only coverage of domestic partners in the *Chronicle's* Election Day editions.

Considering Conclusions

Egregious homophobia does exist in American journalism. The *New York Post*, for example, responded to the 1987 March on Washington with a screamer headline, "AIDS Monster," describing a Long Island man accused of having sex with teenage boys.

The *Chronicle* is not guilty of such outrageous malignment and exploitation. But the paper has committed sins of omission, probably arising not from overt

Frisch

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HAPPY THANKSGIVING SAN FRANCISCO

homophobia but from benign neglect.

The *Chronicle* endorsed Prop. S and presented two very positive commentaries, by Koren and Shilts. But in an election decided on turnout, where awareness of the issue was most important to the Yes on S forces, did *Chronicle* news management consciously downplay domestic partners? Column count and after-the-fact analyses can only provide circumstantial evidence. Ultimately, it will be up to the *Chronicle's* readers to interpret the paper's coverage for themselves. ▼

ddl

(Continued from page 4)

by calling for an accelerated approval process. "We've shown that AZT works at the far and near ends [of the T-cell spectrum]. . . do we need to test ddl at all levels?" he said. "Let's not spend the time, and give it to people instead of going through [elaborate] clinical trials."

Dobson agreed enthusiastically. "Great," he said. "But will the FDA approve this?" he asked. "fight together for," said Dr. Volberding.

Despite such moments of agreement, the lingering distrust between activists and researchers was apparent. Volberding voiced concern that the clinical trials were having trouble recruiting patients while the "expanded access" protocols were swamped with volunteers. When he asked for a show of hands, less than a half dozen participants expressed interest in the trial, and many times that number in the "expanded access." It is this lack of trust that this presentation was created to address. ▼

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Apparent Suicide

Gay Sex Scandal Figure Found Dead in Boston Hotel

by Cliff O'Neill

Craig Spence, the flamboyant conservative lobbyist at the center of a summer long D.C. sex scandal involving a male escort service and midnight tours of the White House, was found dead Nov. 10 in a Boston hotel room, the victim of a suspected suicide.

Dressed in a black tuxedo with tails, a white bow tie with white suspenders, black shoes and black socks, Spence, 49, was discovered in a room of the Ritz-Carlton hotel lying on the king sized bed, wearing his glasses, carrying personal papers and three dollars in his pocket and with the phone cradled on his shoulder.

In the false ceiling of the bathroom, police found several small packets of Xanax, a prescription anti-depressant, with one tablet removed. Police however, have not yet confirmed a cause of death.

Also in the bedroom, Spence left his will and his birth certificate carefully arranged alongside a final message written on the mirror with a black felt tip marker.

"Chief, consider this my resignation, effective immediately," he wrote. "As you always said, you can't ask others to make a

sacrifice if you are not ready to do the same. Life is duty. God bless America. P.S. To the Ritz, please forgive this inconvenience."

As Spence had arranged the room's other bed and a chair in front of the door, to prevent anyone from entering, police officers had to saw through the door to enter the room.

The *Washington Post* reported Nov. 13 that shortly before his death, Spence had called a friend of his in Virginia and stated he was going to kill himself. Yet, when the man called the hotel to warn them, hotel officials did not find Spence's name on the register.

Apparently, Spence had registered himself as "C.F. Kane," the lead character in Orson Wells' *Citizen Kane*, Spence's favorite movie.

A conservative power broker once primarily known for his glamorous D.C. parties where he played host to the government's right-wing power elite, Spence became yet more famous in disgrace early last summer when the conservative *Washington Times* began a steady stream of stories about him.

Linked to a male escort service under investigation for credit

card fraud, Spence was reported to have been among the service's biggest clients, at one point spending \$20,000 a month on the service.

The pipe-smoking Spence was known as an unusual figure who, once profiled in the *New York Times* as a powerful right-wing lobbyist, became increasingly bizarre by telling people he was an agent of the CIA and that his parties were bugged for blackmail purposes. On one occasion he listed his occupation as "millionaire."

Reports of his taking secret midnight tours of the White House, his being given a piece of Truman china and his alleged bribery of a White House security guard led to Spence's sudden disappearance once the stories surfaced.

On July 31, Spence was arrested in a New York City hotel room along with a male prostitute and charged with possession of an illegal weapon and a small amount of crack cocaine.

Soon thereafter, in an exclusive interview with the *Washington Times*, Spence revealed that he had become depressed after being diagnosed with AIDS and had been contemplating suicide. ▼

National Briefs

Young Quits FDA Administrator Post

Food and Drug Administration Commissioner Frank E. Young abruptly announced his resignation Nov. 13, after months of harsh criticism from a wide array of critics, which at one point included many in the nation's AIDS community. Effective Dec. 18, Young, who has held the agency's top spot since 1984, will move to an advisory position within the Department of Health and Human Services, a switch critics have called a demotion in no uncertain terms. It will not be the responsibility of Undersecretary of Health James Mason to pick a replacement for Young. Rumored as a possible replacement for Young has been Dr. Burton Lee III, personal physician to the president and former member of the Presidential Commission on the HIV Epidemic. Lee has worked closely with AIDS activists in the past and is a proponent of early AIDS drug access. In past months, Young has been criticized for his handling of the FDA generic drug scandal and his agency's reaction to the Chilean grape scare. Most recently, Young has again had his feet held to the fire on the lack of restrictions on unsubstantiated health claims made on food packaging. ▼

5 Phone Sex Lines Disconnected

Five telephone services offering live conversation about sex were disconnected in the New York metropolitan area after a Federal court ruled that the telephone company could prohibit such conversations in certain instances without violating free speech. The decision on live sex conversation is limited to calls dialed to New York Telephone's 970 exchange, which was set up specifically to handle recorded sex messages. The exchange is equipped to accept calls from the 212, 718 and 516 area codes, as well as from portions of the 914 area code. A spokesman for the telephone company, Steve Marcus, pointed out that services offering live sex conversation can still use regular telephone lines like 900 numbers, but added that a New York State Public Service Commission regulation has limited the 970 exchange to recorded messages. —from the *New York Times*

HHS Chief Blasted for Suicide Remarks

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Louis Sullivan's criticism of a government report calling for increased attention to suicides among lesbian and gay youth has received a harsh attack from the executive director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund. HRCF Executive Director Tim McFeeley called on Sullivan to "re-evaluate your position and not assist those who would sacrifice the lives and health of gay and lesbian youth to promote a political agenda of hate and bigotry." "I think it is outrageous that Secretary Sullivan decided to ignore his department's report. He caved into pressure from William Dannemeyer and Robert Dornan," McFeeley said, referring to the two California representatives who have criticized the report for "promoting" homosexuality. Sullivan has written to Dannemeyer stating that the views expressed in the "Report of the Secretary's Task Force on Youth Suicide" did not reflect his commitment "to advancing traditional family values." McFeeley took issue with Sullivan's assertion, stating that "support and tolerance for gay and lesbian youth is not contrary to family values. Keeping gay and lesbian youth in school, in their family homes, off the streets, and alive, strengthens the institution of the family." ▼

Task Force: Implement Military Report

A new report ordered by the Department of Defense concluded that the American military should re-examine its homophobic policy and consider ending anti-gay and lesbian discrimination. The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force has called for the immediate implementation of the report to stem the rising tide of court martial and unfair discharges. NGLTF, part of the Gay and Lesbian Military Freedom project, has praised the report and called it a validation of what gays and lesbians have known for years: Homosexuals are not welcome in the military, are being severely discriminated against and are being evicted under malicious and punitive charges. The half-inch thick report, called "Nonconforming Sexual Orientation and Military Suitability," was commissioned by the DoD and executed by the Defense Personnel Security Research and Education Center. The unclassified study, dated December 1988, surfaced recently in a *New York Times* article after it was made available by members of Congress, in particular Reps. Gerry Studds (D-Mass.) and Patricia Schroeder (D-Colo.). The report urges the military to end its ban on gays and lesbians. Citing changes in American society's acceptance of homosexuals, the report states the government will most likely be forced to re-examine its anti-gay policies. ▼

Anti-Gay Attacks Blamed on Right-Wing

A new report from the Center for Democratic Renewal ties the rising tide of violence against gays and lesbians to far right and white supremacist organizations that are using anti-gay bigotry to attract new recruits. The report is entitled *Quarantines and Death: The Far Right's Homophobic Agenda*. "Gay people have increasingly become the target of bigoted violence," Daniel Levitas, executive director of the Atlanta-based CDR, said. "This report describes the theoretical framework of the far right's homophobic agenda and outlines the basic steps needed to confront anti-gay bigotry." The 40-page monograph was written by CDR research director Leonard Zeskind and Mab Segrest, a longtime lesbian activist, who is director of research and publications for North Carolinians Against Racism and Religious Violence, based in Durham. *Quarantines and Death* is available for \$5 (including postage and handling) from the Center for Democratic Renewal, P.O. Box 50469, Atlanta 30302. A discount of 15 percent is available on orders of 10 or more. ▼

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Holidays: A Depressing Time for Gay Youth

by Dell Richards

While many gay and lesbian adolescents dread the upcoming holidays because it means that much more time at home, young gay men and lesbians of Chicago look forward to what psychologists say is the most stressful time of year.

A feast of activities—from potlucks to caroling and parties—helps gay and lesbian youth feel they are part of a family.

This sense of belonging is critical because so many young gays feel alienated to begin with. During the winter holidays—from Thanksgiving to Hanukkah to Christmas and New Year's—they often find the emphasis on hearth and home too much to bear.

"Gay youth can be a very high-risk population," said Liz Huesemann of Horizons Community Services in Chicago.

"If we don't address it and deal with it, drugs, alcohol and suicide are just some of the things that can happen."

Huesemann has been there.

As a young lesbian, she became a victim of fear and isolation herself—one who turned to drugs and alcohol to dim the pain.

"I'm one of the statistics," Huesemann said. "I had a difficult time growing up. And I covered it up with drugs and alcohol."

Today, the 33-year-old woman heads youth services at the Chicago community center.

Like Huesemann, gay and lesbian youth face overwhelming odds in adolescence. Most are not out to their parents and are afraid their parents will find out.

This fear isn't just idle paranoia. Teens who are honest and open are rejected by their family and friends. At school, they are laughed at, ridiculed and even beaten up. Their drop-out rate is way above the national average.

At one of the most critical periods of their lives, at a time when hormones and emotion are running at their highest, when belonging and being loved is one of their most pressing needs, they face a condemning and ruthlessly hostile environment.

The aim of Horizons is to help young gay, lesbian and bisexual youth deal with their sexuality during this harsh period, to integrate their sexuality into their lives and to become stable, adjusted adults. It provides role models, support groups, a library and a safe place to make friends with other gays their own age.

Without organizations like Horizons—of which there are only a handful in the United States—these overwhelming feelings of being alienated and out-cast often lead to destructive means of escape such as drugs, alcohol and even suicide.

The recent report by the Department of Health and Human Services confirmed the gay community's worst fears about what the next generation has to face, citing suicide as the leading cause of death among gay and lesbian youth.

According to the report, gay and lesbian youth may account for nearly 30 percent of all successful youth suicides each year.

"Homosexuals are two to six times more likely to attempt

suicide than are heterosexuals," the report said.

These horrifying statistics aren't just numbers at Horizons. The teen-agers Huesemann deals with every day bear the scars of these terrifying figures.

"Our records show that one out of every four to five people in the youth group may have attempted suicide before coming into the program," Huesemann said.

Most gay youth have no one to turn to and are lucky if they can find a sympathetic adult who can help them with their fears.

The crying need for these services is evident not just from the number of suicides but the number of teens Horizons sees each year. Founded a decade ago Horizons helped 400 gay youth this past year. Last year 375 came through the doors seeking help.

"The program started because of the youth out there that was hiding," Huesemann said.

"Kids don't feel safe enough



Liz Huesemann.

(Photo: Dell Richards)

in school to say to teachers or friends that they are lesbian or gay."

Today, the organization provides a safe, fun place for gay teens from Illinois, Wisconsin and even Indiana.

In December they'll have an evening of caroling with other gay friends and a "Just Because" party with music and dancing. This winter cornucopia comes after a Thanksgiving potluck held at a pizza parlor the night before the big event, a Halloween party, a Valentine's dance and a proper high school prom at a local restaurant that featured dinner and dancing.

"We're a social service agency but we try to provide lots of activities that are fun," Huesemann said.

The widely respected agency now has two paid staff members, 25 volunteers and is part of a larger community service network that provides services for drug and alcohol abusers and the homeless. Teens are referred to Horizons by social service programs throughout the state and it does its own outreach.

The center prints cards about itself and its services that teens from Horizons then take to their school and put in library books.

"The kids themselves put cards into books other kids might read," she said.

Horizons trains local teachers and counselors in how to deal with gay youth and the particular issues of self-hatred and low self-esteem they often have.

Huesemann speaks at schools statewide on a regular basis about being gay, talking about the risks gay youth face, answering questions and trying to combat negative stereotypes.

For Huesemann, being a speaker is one of the few painful aspects of the job.

"I often ask myself why I have to do this," she said. "And I wonder how many times in sex ed classes I have to see people and say I'm a homosexual. I keep asking why can't people just accept each other—whether they're heterosexual or homosexual?"

With a masters in social work, Huesemann has been working with teens for the past 10 years. Before becoming the first paid

(Continued on page 18)



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RSVP

Gays Organizing In Guatemala

by Rex Wockner

The alleged failure of the government to do anything about AIDS has led to the first organization of gays in the Central American nation of Guatemala.

Calling itself *C'aslen*, a native word for "life," the group has initiated a wide range of activities, including handing out condoms in massage parlors and hosting a consciousness-raising group called *Yo Soy Gay Y Que?* ("I'm Gay And So What?").

"The health ministry has an AIDS prevention program," said *C'aslen* Executive Director Carlos Serrano, "but it's in name only. They don't work with anyone at all. All they've done is set up an HIV laboratory."

At present, *C'aslen* and its community center are funded by the Guatemalan Association for Sexual Education. Serrano said the group wanted to become independent, but needed better support from gays first.

"The gay community has responded to us very poorly," Serrano said. "The gay community just doesn't want to create a consciousness of responsibility in relation to protection of the community."

Serrano thinks much of the problem stems from vast numbers of Guatemalan gays re-

maining in the closet. *C'aslen* has formed a group called *Saliendo Del Closet* ("Leaving the Closet") in an attempt to break down that wall.

"We hope to create conditions so that people can accept themselves and have confidence in themselves in order to have greater liberation in their lives," Serrano said. "These are consciousness-raising programs for all homosexuals to ask, 'Why am I gay?' and realize that as gays we don't want to be women and don't have to have very feminine conditions. Being gay is responsibility, acceptance... a new way of life."

Other regular workshops address condom use, eroticization of safe sex and acceptance of an HIV-seropositive status, while additional outreach programs provide condoms and safe-sex information at bars, drag clubs, and porno theaters, and basic AIDS information to hospitals, universities and high schools.

C'aslen has three full-time employees and 55 volunteers. The group serves 40 HIV-positives in Guatemala City and has provided services for more than 500 persons in its first 10 months of existence, Serrano said. ▼

Hungarian Gays Face Increased Harassment

by Rex Wockner

Even as Hungary officially declared itself independent of the Soviet Union and no longer a socialist nation in late October, members of the Eastern Bloc's only legal gay organization, HOMEROS Lambda, reported increased and more violent harassment in the capital of Budapest.

According to Sándor Borsos, HOMEROS spokesman, the group's nightclub (and Hungary's only gay bar), Lokál, is under constant attack from other tenants of its building, authorities and nearby businesses.

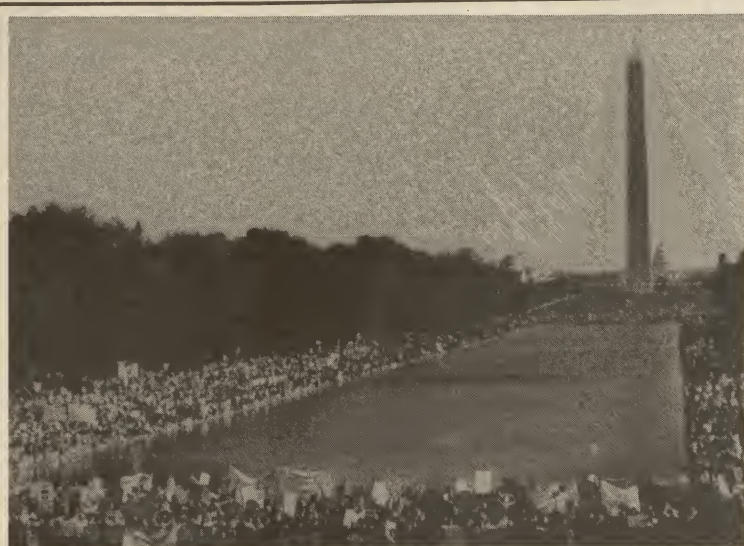
"Neighbors say they are scandalized by obscene scenes in the

staircases and have begun dropping bricks and eggs on patrons standing in front of the entrance," Borsos said.

In early October the neighbors petitioned authorities to close the club down.

Police, meanwhile, have continued regular raids on the bar, "sometimes taking away patrons, but still refusing to do anything about hooligan attacks on the establishment," according to Borsos.

And in the latest Lokál-related disaster, a group of influential taxi companies called a boycott of the bar, telling the media that it is a "queers' hangout."



D.C. March

The crowd at the Washington Monument for the Mobilization for Women's Lives rally Nov. 12.

(Photo: Patricia Becholt)

NBC News Accused of Insensitivity to Gays

Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation board members recently met in New York with NBC Nightly News executive producer William Wheatley to discuss "sensationalistic" handling of stories with "homosexual" angles.

The meeting focused on NBC's controversial coverage of the Navy's investigation into the explosion aboard the USS Iowa last April, which took the lives of 47 sailors.

In May "unnamed sources" within the Naval Investigative Services leaked to NBC correspondent Fred Francis claims that there was evidence of a murder/suicide involving a "homosexual relationship" between Gunner's Mate Clayton Hartwig (who was killed in the blast) and Gunner's Mate Kendall Truitt (who survived).

In June, Francis reported that Navy investigators were "convinced" that Hartwig was a "troubled homosexual" who was suicidal because other sailors had rejected his advances. In both cases the national media picked up the story, with attribution to NBC.

According to Stephen Miller,

GLAAD's media committee chair, "We delivered the message that if you're going to put up a graphic during an early story on the investigation that says 'Troubled Homosexual' (describing Hartwig), you have an obligation to state that the final report contained no finding of homosexuality."

"And if you are going to do a lead story saying that sailor David Smith told NIS interrogators that Hartwig had made sexual advances toward him, you have a responsibility to report that Smith later recanted his testimony, saying that he had been threatened into telling the NIS what it wanted to hear."

The NIS has been frequently criticized by civil rights groups for its tactics in probes of suspected gays and lesbians.

Moreover, GLAAD contended that NBC reported the story without questioning the motives of its "unnamed sources," ignoring the Navy's vested interest in suggesting that a "troubled homosexual" was behind the blast. Several court cases are currently being litigated involving gay men and lesbians fighting discharge from the Navy. ▼

Dukakis

(Continued from page 1)

more than 300 spectators, including members of ACT UP/ Boston, who brought their own message to the event.

"Gay rights don't raise the dead," "Gay rights can't cure the ill," and "Gay rights—yes! AIDS complacency—no!" read some of the signs held by ACT UP members.

"I dedicate this bill to the thousands of our brothers who died of the twin epidemics of AIDS and government neglect," said Steven Tierney, co-chair of the Massachusetts Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus. "We promise to use our newfound strength to ensure that the government does what it should to fight this epidemic," he pledged, adding, "Brothers and sisters and friends, we are in this for the distance. Take heart, because this is a victory, and it is just the beginning."

The presence of the ACT UP signs at the ceremony was just one indication of struggles that have divided the Boston lesbian and gay community during this month of celebrations.

The latest intracommunity conflict centered on the choice of speakers for the signing ceremony. Although spokespersons for the governor's office insisted to the *Bay Area Reporter* that "there was nothing unusual about this signing," the ceremony was preceded by an intense behind-the-scenes struggle.

In the end, to the dismay of many activists, both of the gay speakers at the event represented the same organization, one of the dozens of groups that worked to pass the bill during the past 17 years.

"Politicians are nice—well, some of us are—and sometimes even useful," joked Rep. Mark Roosevelt, a chief sponsor of the bill, "but in the end this is a victory for the gay and lesbian community."

While activists cheered this attempt to hand the legislative ceremony over to the community, they also planned their own celebration, during which gays and lesbians would sign a giant copy of the bill at Boston's historic Faneuil Hall. ▼

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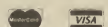
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When to Prophylax?

Prevention of Pneumocystis Carinii Pneumonia

by Cornelius Gross and Ron Baker, PhD

Current public health guidelines call for prophylaxis against PCP for people with HIV infection who have fewer than 200 or less than 20 percent T-helper cells. Yet physicians of the County Community Consortium in San Francisco are reporting PCP among a significant number of patients with T-helper cell counts in the 200-300 range.

This article includes information that may help determine the most appropriate time to begin preventative treatment for the disease. We hope this article will generate further discussion about whether or not to modify existing recommendations for primary prophylaxis against PCP.

Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia (PCP) is a life-threatening infection of the lungs which develops in approximately 85 percent of PWA (people with AIDS). Although the organism that causes PCP is common even in people who are HIV-negative, it rarely progresses to the disease stage because most people's immune systems are able to suppress the infection effectively. For PWA, however, PCP is the leading cause of death. Between 5 and 20 percent of the people with the disease die during their first episode.

In the last year, it has become increasingly clear that prophylactic use of a variety of drugs may prevent or postpone the onset of PCP. It is also the most cost-effective approach because it prevents or postpones the expensive medical care required for the treatment of acute (severe or life-threatening) PCP.

It is important for people at risk for HIV infection to consider taking the HIV antibody test. Those who are HIV-positive should monitor their immune system health early, and continue to monitor it every three to six months. This close monitoring allows them to consider early prophylactic treatment for PCP if they are found to be at risk for the disease. It is particularly urgent that all people who are HIV-positive determine their risk for developing PCP, because it may occur before any other symptoms of HIV infection appear.

When to Begin Preventative Treatment for PCP

Several indicators of immune system function may be used to decide when to begin prophylaxis. The single most useful guide may be T-helper cell counts. Both the absolute number of T-helper cells (measured as the number of cells per cubic millimeter) and the percentage of T-helper cells (measured as a percentage of total lymphocytes) should be used to monitor risk for PCP. The percentage of T-helper cells has been associated with less day-to-day variation than the absolute number, and many physicians consider it more reliable.

Because T-helper cell counts vary widely from day to day and from lab to lab, the T-helper cell count from any single test should always be considered in the context of a series of these tests. Many physicians advise their patients to have their T-helper cells counted every three to six months.

The U.S. Public Health Service recommends PCP prophylaxis for all people with either fewer than 200 or less than 20 percent T-helper cells. This recommendation may need to be revised, however. The minutes of the June 1989 meeting of the County Community Consortium in San Francisco indicate that Consortium physicians frequently find PCP in people with 200-300 T-helper cells. Consequently, it may be useful to consider other factors besides T-helper cell counts to help decide when to begin PCP prophylaxis.

A group of UCSF researchers recently studied the use of other laboratory tests to determine risk for PCP. They suggest that abnormal results from two or more of these tests may indicate that the individual is at increased risk for PCP, even when the absolute number of T-helper cells is greater than 200 and the percentage higher than 20 percent. These abnormal findings include a positive p24 antigen test, more than 3.0 mg per liter beta-2

microglobulin, hemoglobin less than 13.5 grams per deciliter, and hematocrit (the volume percentage of red blood cells in whole blood) less than 40.

In people who are HIV-positive, other conditions such as oral candidiasis, hairy leukoplakia, or herpes zoster, may also indicate increased risk for PCP. Another indicator of PCP risk may be the skin anergy test, which measures the body's capacity to mount an allergic response against various proteins injected within the skin. A marked depression in response to a number of these proteins may indicate abnormal immune function and increased risk for PCP.

What Preventative Treatments are Available?

Once the need for prophylaxis against PCP has been determined, a treatment strategy must be chosen. At least three drugs are currently used for PCP prophylaxis: trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole (TMP-SMX), which is marketed as Bactrim,

Septra and others; aerosolized pentamidine; and oral Dapsone, an antibiotic. Only aerosolized pentamidine has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as a prophylactic treatment for PCP. However, both TMP-SMX and Dapsone are readily available by prescription and have long been considered standard treatments for other infections. In making the choice between different prophylactic drugs, the individual and his or her physician should consider, among other things, drug effectiveness, possible adverse effects, cost, and convenience. The individual should also take into account any other medical conditions, such as allergies or other opportunistic infections.

TMP-SMX

In one study, people with KS were given TMP-SMX orally twice daily as primary prophylaxis, along with 5 mg of leucovorin calcium once daily. During the 36-month study, none of 30 people receiving prophylaxis developed PCP, while 53 percent of 30 people not receiving prophylaxis did develop the disease.

Other studies confirm the effectiveness of TMP-SMX in preventing or delaying the onset of PCP. However, most studies show that 40-60 percent of people using the drug experience adverse effects, and, as a result,

many of them stop treatment. The most common adverse effects are reduced white blood cell count, skin rash, nausea, vomiting, itching, and an altered sense of taste. Serious adverse effects, often requiring immediate treatment termination, include fever and severe, life-threatening skin rash. The high frequency of adverse effects is the major drawback of TMP-SMX. Despite this, many physicians initially recommend TMP-SMX because of its potential effectiveness and low cost.

Aerosolized Pentamidine

Recently, aerosolized pentamidine also has been shown to be effective in preventing PCP. In May 1989, the FDA approved the drug for PCP prophylaxis in people with fewer than 200 T-helper cells, or with a previous episode of PCP. In a study done by the County Community Consortium, 87 percent of 139 people receiving 300 mg every four weeks did not develop PCP in the first year of treatment.

Because treatment with pentamidine relies on proper inhalation of the aerosolized drug, the method of administration is critical. It should be used under the supervision of a respiratory therapist.

There has been much debate about the most effective respirator used to deliver the

(Continued on page 20)

BETA

Bulletin of
Experimental
Treatments for
AIDS

A publication of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation

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DEATHS

Anthony "Tony" Paul Panko

Nov. 12, 1944-Nov. 11, 1989

Tony Panko passed over to the other side on Nov. 11, after a brave four-year struggle with AIDS and KS.



His loving friend of seven years, Ted Shuffe, was at his side in their apartment in San Francisco.

In spite of his intense suffering, Tony was cheerful and uncomplaining to the end. He waited for his friend, Ted, to fly back from Europe to say goodbye before passing on.

Tony was born in Ottawa, Ill. He served in the army and saw duty in Vietnam. He was a multi-talented artist, florist and decorator. He worked in San Francisco for Podesta-Boldacci, and more recently as a costume maker for Holiday on Ice in Berne, Switzerland.

He had friends all over the world and he brought joy to every life he touched with his kindness and generosity.

He truly loved to give. He was lovingly irreverent, funny and outrageously irresponsible. Completely irreplaceable! A one of a kind. We all miss you and love you, dear Tony.

The last month of his life Tony was lovingly cared for by the wonderful people from the San Francisco Hospice and his caring neighbors, George Mitchell and Shiela Wishek.

Tony's ashes have been sent to Ottawa, Ill., where he will be laid to rest next to his mother.

Tony is survived by his sisters, Julie Katrein and Marjorie Crammer, of Ottawa, Ill.

Donations in his honor should be made to the San Francisco Hospice, 1390 Market St., 94102.

"Goodbye, baby, we'll talk to you later."

David Mease

David Mease was born in New Jersey on June 16, 1939. After living in Florida for 20 years, he moved to San Francisco in 1975.



David was often a fixture parked on the corner of Castro and 18th streets, his brown Jeep with his English spaniel.

He will always be remembered as a very candid person, having an opinion about everything and everyone.

David succumbed to AIDS on Sunday, Nov. 19, in his home in Diamond Heights. He leaves his family in New Jersey and many loving friends.

Brent S. Larsen

March 25, 1956-Nov. 17, 1989

Brent Larsen, known as "B" to his friends, passed away Friday Nov. 17, after a long struggle with AIDS. His mother was with him at the time.



He is survived by his lover of 15 years, Danny, his mother, Maxine, four brothers and many close friends.

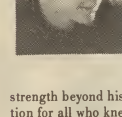
Brent touched many people during his life. He will always be remembered for his outgoing personality, his willingness to help out when asked, and of course he was the first one to want to "get down and party." We will all miss you, Brent. Anyone wishing to make contributions in Brent's name to Coming Home Hospice will be welcome.

Joe "Boy" Saldana

Nov. 2, 1963-Oct. 31, 1989

Joe passed to a painless world on Oct. 31, at Garden Sullivan Hospital with his lifemate at his side.

Born and raised in Corpus Christi where he met his partner of nine years, he moved to San Francisco after his AIDS diagnosis in January 1988.



Joe's art will always remind us of his creativity and his love of life. His courage and his strength beyond his years is an inspiration for all who knew him.

We will always have him with us in our hearts. He will be greatly missed. We love you, babe.

We all fall down... like toy soldiers.

Steve Swanson

1949-1989

Steve Swanson lost a long tough fight against AIDS on Oct. 22. It was one of the few battles he ever lost. He was a loving, compassionate, intelligent man who knew who he was and what he wanted from life.



Steve moved to San Francisco from New Jersey in the early '70s. For many years he was a teacher and counselor at Riordan High School here in the city. He began the wrestling program there and turned it into one of the largest and most successful in the state.

At his crowded memorial service many of his students spoke of the help and guidance he gave them.

After his diagnosis, he fought for his health and remained active and hopeful, becoming involved with the AIDS Mastery Program.

Steve leaves a loving family and many friends. Above all, he leaves the people who always stood by him and were with him at the end, his friend and colleague, Larry, his devoted mother, Julia, and his loving partner, Brian.

Ricardo "Dickie" Galvan

1942-1989

Ricardo died suddenly on Nov. 7 of an aspiration, thereby joining the illustrious company of Mama Cass and Tennessee Williams. A memorial service was held on Nov. 11.

Ricardo was originally from Sacramento, and his immediate survivors include his father, Tony, two sisters, Rose and Punkin, and assorted nieces and nephews. Following his discharge from the army in the mid-1960s, he moved to San Francisco, where his electric personality and razor-sharp wit quickly attracted a vast array of friends from all walks of life.

Fiercely committed to social change, he was a familiar figure at political demonstrations through the years. He was employed for the last 10 years at Xerox Business Services.

Ricardo's brilliance and mercurial temperament masked a truly vulnerable soul. Perhaps his finest quality was his passionate sense of loyalty to the people

he loved. The void in our lives as a result of his loss can never be filled.

Viva Dickie!

Tom Brownfield

Tom Brownfield died from AIDS on Nov. 13, in Sutherlin, Ore.

Tom was a long time San Francisco resident who worked for many years at the University of California, San Francisco. He was diagnosed with AIDS in April 1985 and fought the disease with single-minded determination.

Three years ago he decided to move to a ranch in Oregon where he raised llamas, sheep, goats and pedigree dogs. He felt that living in a calmer, cleaner environment would lengthen his life and enhance its quality. He never regretted the decision.

Tom was an advocate for so many people, always ready to fight for the underdog, always willing to help those in need. He will be missed by many friends and acquaintances in San Francisco and Oregon whose lives he touched.

Tom wished to have his ashes scattered at sea outside the San Francisco Bay. A service will be planned at a later date. Anyone wishing further information may contact Jerry Smith in Oregon at (503) 459-4807 or Pat Struckman at (415) 476-1806.

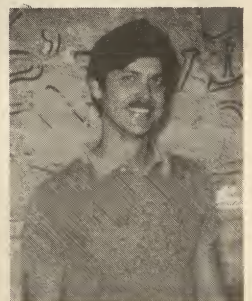
Grant Trent

July 1, 1943-Nov. 11, 1989

Grant died peacefully at his home after a long and courageous struggle with AIDS. Tenacity, determination and spirit were the compelling factors that Grant always felt would help him win the battle over this devastating illness.

Grant was born in Chandler, Okla., and is survived by a sister, Ann Felts of San Francisco, and nine remaining brothers and sisters residing in North Carolina, Texas, Virginia, Nevada and Oklahoma. His last years were enriched by a wonderful relationship with his lover, Lupe Vasquez.

Those of us who Grant has left behind will always remember his dark good looks and radiant smile. He was known for his sensitivity, kindness and generosity. He was in fact a living memorial to everyone who was in contact with him. He will be missed and forever remembered by his family and many loving friends.



A "remembrance" followed by a celebration of Grant's life will be held on Dec. 2 from 1-5 p.m. at the Potrero Court Clubhouse located at 2250 24th St. in San Francisco. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Grant's name may be made to Family Link or Project Open Hand.

For additional obituary material on Grant Trent, see page 51.

Perry Watson
1950-1987
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Holidays
(Continued from page 15)
director of Horizons, she worked with teen drug and alcohol programs.

"I've always found it easy to communicate with kids," she said. "Probably because I had such a hard time myself."

When Huesemann counsels teens on the dangers of drugs and alcohol, she speaks from experience. She is a recovering alcoholic who started drinking in adolescence.

Huesemann's father was a minister in the United Church of Christ, a fairly rigid denomination. As a result of her strict upbringing, Huesemann understands how parents can be well-meaning but still be part of the problem.

"They come to us because their kid doesn't come home anymore and they don't know how to deal with it," she said.

Huesemann does what she can to educate parents about the stereotypes of lesbians and gays. She tries to teach them that—contrary to their ideas—homosexuality is not a mental illness and that sexuality cannot be changed.

"But the emphasis is on the teen, not the parent," she said.

To get around the need for parental permission to attend meetings, Horizons holds support groups rather than formal, therapy groups.

"We provide support groups—not individual therapy programs—because the kids don't need parental permission to be there."

As many as 30 teens show up for the support groups. The weekly drop-in evenings can bring in as many as 80 teens.

If a teen needs special help, Huesemann herself does the immediate crisis intervention. But if a youngster requires long-term care, he or she can be referred to another counselor.

With 10 years under its belt, Horizons is looking forward to another decade of growth. One goal is to reach 500 teen-agers in the next few years.

"Horizons is a place where gay kids don't have to be isolated, where they can make emotional connections," said Huesemann.

Making those kinds of meaningful connections on a regular basis is essential for everyone, not just gay and lesbian youth.

And at its best, taking the time to do just that is what this holiday season is all about.

Red Cross: We Accept Gay Cash

by Allen White

Representatives of the Red Cross showed up at the Eagle Sunday to head off any further criticism by the gay community that they don't want "gay money."

The organization has become increasingly concerned about criticism by the gay community of their fundraising efforts and allocation of millions of dollars.

This week it was also learned that talks have finally begun with Project Open Hand to reimburse them for providing tens of thousands of meals at Red Cross shelters after the Oct. 17 earthquake. At the same time, AIDS organizations in San Francisco are beginning to see their fundraising base dry up as millions are funneled to the Red Cross.

Though claiming an inability to process acknowledgment of contributions because of the work load, representatives from the Red Cross made time to show up Sunday at the Eagle to receive a \$200 donation from the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. The Red Cross, for the first time, thanked the gay community for a \$30,000 donation from the Yes on S campaign.

The Red Cross had been under severe criticism since the earthquake in many areas. The con-

tribution from the Yes on S domestic partners campaign had not been acknowledged until last week. Sources at Yes on S campaign headquarters speculated the Red Cross did not want the money because it was "gay money." Unlike other big money contributions, the Red Cross acknowledged that they still had issued no written press release or communicated their thanks to the Yes on S campaign directly.

Members of the mainstream and gay press were invited to the Eagle Nov. 19 to cover presentation of the \$200 check. Reporters were also told that representatives from the Red Cross would be available to answer questions regarding the earthquake relief effort.

Cecilia McDonnell, assistant director of financial development for the American Red Cross of the Bay Area, represented the organization. Though her job is fundraising, she could give no specific details of how the \$17 million being raised for earthquake relief would be spent in real dollars.

She also said she did not know how much money was budgeted for San Francisco. In fact, the person who is one of the primary fundraisers for the Bay Area Red

Cross did not know how much money had been budgeted for any part of the earthquake relief or how the figure of \$17 million was determined.

The huge Red Cross fundraising effort comes at a time when many AIDS organizations are in the process of major year-end fundraising efforts. In fact, the total money to be privately raised for all AIDS organizations in San Francisco is millions of dollars less than the \$17 million figure.

Privately, fundraisers for several AIDS groups have expressed concern about their ability to raise money for next year's budgets. The reason, they say, is because much charity money in the Bay Area is going into the coffers of the American Red Cross.

Shanti Project has an annual fundraising goal of about \$2 million. The annual budget for 1989 for the San Francisco AIDS Emergency Fund is less than \$1 million.

The total annual budget of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation is \$5.5 million, less than one third the money being raised by the Red Cross. Pat Christen, execu-

tive director of the AIDS Foundation, said that almost 80 percent of those funds have to be raised privately.

Steve Burns, chief operating officer of Project Open Hand, said talks had finally begun between their organization and the American Red Cross. Project Open Hand served tens of thousands of meals at Red Cross shelters and at other locations in the Bay Area.

Burns said it would be "unfriendly" to criticize the delay in talks at this time because both organizations had been so burdened by the earthquake. But Burns said that if money the Red Cross offers to reimburse Project Open Hand was not, in their opinion, satisfactory, "the community will be the first to know."

In accepting the money from the Sisters, McDonnell reassured the Eagle crowd the money would stay in Northern California. During the first days following the earthquake, money not specifically earmarked for Northern California was sent to their national office for use in any disaster relief effort, a decision that could send the money anywhere in the world. ▼

Adoption

(Continued from page 1)

Eric had bonded with the couple since his placement in their home, and that the child's best interest would be served by allowing Millie and Sue to legally adopt him.

"The department's policy is to make automatic negative recommendations if an unmarried couple tries to adopt a child jointly," Achtenberg said at a news conference held Nov. 15. "They don't approve or disapprove adoptions. They can only make recommendations to the court."

"The policy is irrational and wasteful. We would like to see cases decided on their individual merits," she said.

"He is a child who needed love," Sue told reporters. "That's what we saw. He needed to be cared for. Granted, it takes extra care, but the rewards go way beyond that."

"There is no reason why kids like Eric should not be able to find love and affection in good homes like Millie and Sue's. Good homes come in all different sizes and shapes," Achtenberg said. "They can be lesbian or gay, straight homes, or multiracial homes. But if they're good homes, then the children's interest is protected. That's what the department and the courts and our government should be trying to foster: good family life and support and protection for children in need." ▼

Planning Commission OKs Opening of Josie's

by Cindy Bologna

"Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint" has won the approval of the San Francisco City Planning Commission to open an establishment at 3583 16th St., despite opposition from the Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association.

The new enterprise, which is expected to open in January, will offer a simple food menu, juices, beer and wine, according to a report in the *Duboce Triangle News*.

The Planning Commission also approved a plan for nighttime entertainment, with evening

shows ending at 11 p.m. on weeknights and 1 a.m. on weekends.

Heading the project are Donald Montwill, Dirk Alphin and Ron Lanza, many of the same people who created the landmark Valencia Rose.

Bob Bush, president of the neighborhood group, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the main objection to the proposal was the negative impact it could have on the neighborhood at 16th and Market.

"People who live on Pond and Prosper streets consider the area



The future home of Josie's at Market and 16th streets.

(Photo: Rink)

to be residential," Bush said. "They are concerned that the restaurant, and especially the nighttime entertainment, would

produce additional traffic and noise in the neighborhood."

Bush was also concerned that if another evening establishment

opened in the area, it would draw vagrants who would panhandle.

"It's not so much the patrons, but who will show up for a hand-out that concerns us," he said.

Bush claims that the only way to further protest the opening of "Josie's" would be to go to the Board of Supervisors.

"It doesn't do us any good for a business to come in here and go broke. Once the Planning Commission approves a plan, continued protesting becomes a form of harassment," he added.

The *Duboce Triangle News* also reported that "Josie's" does not plan to "feature rock 'n' roll or other amplified music."

"If the residents on Pond and Prosper want to go to the supervisors, then we will," Bush concluded. But at this time, he said that approach was unlikely. ▼

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For Asian language/community information, call the Asian AIDS Project: **929-1304**

Funding provided by the San Francisco Department of Public Health and foundation, corporate, and individual donations.



Taking It To The Street

More than 3,000 women marched Saturday night, Nov. 18, from City Hall through the Tenderloin to Union Square, protesting violence against women. (Photo: Jane Cleland)

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-James Baldwin



UCSF Prevention Sciences Group

Twin Peaks Bar Denies Having 'No-Kissing' Policy

by Cindy Bologna

One of the owners of Twin Peaks Tavern, Peggy Forester, denies claims made by Paul McGuinness that on the night of Oct. 20 he was asked to leave the bar for kissing another man.

"There is absolutely no policy against kissing at Twin Peaks," Forester said. "If a customer is asked to leave, it would not be for kissing."

On the night in question, McGuinness claimed that one of the waitresses took away his drink because he had kissed his friend "thank you" when he was bought a drink. He further stated that when he refused to leave, the police were called and he was taken to Mission Station but not charged.

Liz, who was the waitress that evening, said, "One of our regular customers, Don Pence, asked me to please cut off (McGuinness) drinks because the man was ruining everyone's evening. The kissing wasn't the problem. He was getting sloppy and offensive and that's why he was asked to leave."

Tom Wesner and Jeff Green were the bartenders on duty and agreed that McGuinness was causing a commotion.

"At one point (McGuinness) grabbed Liz by the arm and that's when I came around from behind the bar to see what was going on," said Wesner. "Twin Peaks is a friendly, neighborhood bar where our customers like to socialize and relax. They don't like to put up with the kind of

disturbances that he was causing. At one point, he even threatened to break the windows."

McGuinness denies that he made any threats and vehemently stands by his original story.

Regarding the implication the had had too much to drink, he said, "That's a totally false statement. I'm shocked that they said it."

McGuinness claims that two of his friends will stand by his story, but neither one of them were available for comment.

The Twin Peaks staff does admit that when patrons are "groping each other" or "getting hot and heavy" they are asked by staff and customers to cool down. "It's just not that kind of bar," Wesner said. "There's other places to go for that."

Pence, who claims he was sitting next to McGuinness at the time said, "What that man told (the B.A.R.) is an outrageous lie. He was being totally obnoxious to everyone in the bar. As a matter of fact, I was one of the people who volunteered to help throw him out if necessary. He kept putting his arm around me saying things like, 'What's the matter? Don't you want to be friendly?' If Twin Peaks should be accused of anything, it should be extreme patience."

Forester said she hoped the matter would soon be forgotten.

"I've received a lot of complaints from people because of this unfortunate incident," she said. ▼

Prophylaxis

(Continued from page 17)

drug. The San Francisco researchers recommend the Respigard II respirator (sold by Marquest) because it makes droplets with sizes between one and two microns. Larger droplets do not seem to reach the small alveolar sacs of the lungs where the infection most often resides. In addition, some physicians recommend lying down when inhaling the drug to help maximize distribution into the upper portions of the lungs. The efficacy of this position has not been proven, however.

A major drawback of aerosolized pentamidine has been its high cost—usually at least \$160 per month in the United States. The cost of aerosolized pentamidine, however, may not actually be significantly higher than that of TMP-SMX because aerosolized pentamidine does not require the frequent blood tests needed to monitor the toxicity of TMP-SMX.

Few people using aerosolized pentamidine experience serious adverse effects. Mild adverse effects include wheezing and coughing spasms, which bronchodilating drugs can help ministered. Physicians have noted that because the aerosol is deposited primarily in the lower lungs, people using it are more likely to experience PCP in the upper lungs. There may also be increased risk of developing pneumocystis infection in other organs of the body

prophylaxis is Dapsone, an antibiotic similar to TMP-SMX. A study presented at the Fifth International Conference on AIDS in Montreal indicates that oral Dapsone seems to be as effective as TMP-SMX for prophylaxis against PCP. Doses of 50-100 mg per day have been used effectively. Its side effects include nausea, vomiting, skin rash, anemia, fever, and headache, but these were less severe than the side effects of TMP-SMX and were experienced by only 10-20 percent of the people taking the drug. However, certain people may experience severe anemia. Like TMP-SMX, Dapsone is relatively inexpensive, costing a few dollars per month. Because its effectiveness is less well documented, however, many physicians recommend Dapsone only after first considering TMP-SMX.

Some physicians recommend the use of combination therapy to prevent PCP. Because PCP can occur in organs other than the lungs, combining a daily dose of a systemic treatment like TMP-SMX or Dapsone with monthly administration of aerosolized pentamidine may prove more beneficial than either treatment alone. However, there are risks involved in this treatment regimen because of the possible side effects from using TMP-SMX and Dapsone. No studies have been done to evaluate the possible effectiveness of this approach to preventative treatment for PCP.

This article is excerpted from the November 1989 issue of BETA, the Bulletin of Experimental Treatments for AIDS, a publication of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. ▼

Dapsone

A third alternative for PCP

BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

UC Fails to Reinstate Feminist Teacher Woo

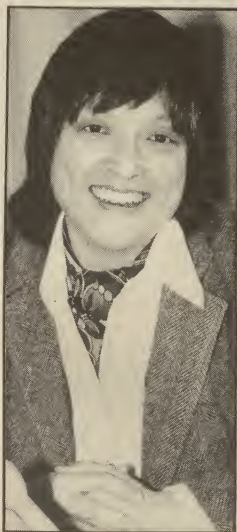
Merle Woo, Asian American socialist feminist educator, who won her job back in February 1989, after a three-year union grievance against the University of California, has not yet been reinstated.

At the February ruling, Arbitrator Leo Kanowitz directed the University to "reinstate Grievant [Woo] to her position as a lecturer on the Berkeley campus with full backpay, benefits, seniority and other privileges of employment."

The university delayed in its proposal for reinstatement until mid-summer, and then proposed an offer that Woo and her union, the University Council-American Federation of Teachers, found unacceptable.

Woo explained why UC has not implemented the arbitrator's decision: "It was the same set-up all over again. UC's continuing discrimination and retaliation have been ongoing since 1982, when they first fired me. I was reinstated in 1984, then fired without a review in 1986. My union and the Merle Woo Defense Committee won a three year grievance, which is supposed to take only 90 days. Then, the university waited until the middle of summer to offer me a position which was completely dead-ended. A position with no need, no funding, and no future."

Woo was initially fired from



Merle Woo.

(Photo: Rink)

Asian American Studies in 1982. She filed federal and state lawsuits based on violation of her First Amendment rights and discrimination based on race, sex, sexuality and political ideology.

The Merle Woo Defense Committee gathered national and international support, and in 1984, Woo and UC agreed to an out-of-court settlement agreement. She

was reinstated to the Graduate School of Education where she was to be treated similarly to other lecturers including the right to a review for consideration for reappointment.

In 1986 Woo was terminated again without a review. UC-AFT filed a grievance charging arbitrary treatment and continuing discrimination and retaliation. The grievance process concluded in an outside arbitration where Arbitrator Leo Kanowitz ruled in Woo's favor.

According to the arbitrator's decision, Woo was to be reinstated with seniority, and, under the union's Memorandum of Understanding, she would be qualified to receive a review for a three-year contract after teaching for one year.

In early May 1989 Woo submitted proposals for departments and courses where she had expertise and extensive background—with the desire of being able to fairly compete with other lecturers with similar experience.

Two months later, on June 28, the University responded by offering Woo two options: (1) a position in Subject A, a basic reading and composition course; (2) teaching English 1A and 1B in the Rhetoric Department.

Woo and UC-AFT rejected Subject A because they believe that Woo should continue teaching in her field of interest and expertise: Ethnic Studies/Asian American Studies. The university had agreed not to place Woo in Subject A in 1984 when Woo won reinstatement through an out-of-court settlement agreement with the university. UC counsel Philip Spiekerman agreed in 1984 that Woo had a right to move beyond a Subject A work assignment.

Woo was to be reinstated with seniority...

Because she believed she would be reinstated to the Berkeley campus by fall 1989, Woo turned down an opportunity to teach full-time in Women's Studies at San Francisco State University. The union believes that until Merle Woo is reinstated to a position that is mutually satisfactory, the University is liable for backpay.

Both the Merle Woo Defense Committee and UC-AFT are requesting supporters to write letters to Chancellor Ira Michael Heyman, 200 California Hall, UC Berkeley 94720, urging the university to act in good faith and immediately reinstate Merle Woo to a position where there is a need for her special skills and abilities in either Ethnic Studies, Women Studies or Creative Writing, and where there is ongoing funding and an opportunity for continued employment.

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Gay Pride Association Elects New Officers

At the California Association of Pride Conference, which took place in San Jose on Nov. 11 and 12, Jim Yonchik from Long Beach Lesbian and Gay Pride Inc. was elected president of the statewide association.

California Association of Pride was formed in November 1988 to create unification among pride organizations and to strengthen the message of gay and lesbian pride within California.

The association also facilitates the exchange of information and resources between the pride groups, and will again conduct a statewide advertising campaign, directed at increasing the visibility of lesbian and gay pride in California.

A resolution condemning disruptive behavior at pride events, but acknowledging the purpose of pride events as to maintain and reinforce the rights and freedoms of all individuals, was passed.

Also, two resolutions designed to facilitate communication between pride groups and the communities they serve were passed. The California Association of Pride affirmed their commitment to the major celebration being planned to commemorate the 25th anniversary of Stonewall taking place June 1994 in New York City.

In other elections, Rod Blair of

the San Jose Gay Pride Committee was elected vice president. Joe Toy, president of Christopher Street West, was elected chief financial officer, and Connie Long, president of Orange County Cultural Pride, was elected secretary.

California Association of Pride is comprised of Long Beach Lesbian and Gay Pride Inc.; Orange County Cultural Pride; San Diego Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee; San Jose Gay and Lesbian Pride Committee; the Valley Business Alliance; the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade Celebration Committee; Sacramento Freedom Fair Committee; South Florida Gay and Lesbian Pride Committee; the San Francisco AIDS Bike-athon Committee; and Christopher Street West/Los Angeles.

California Association of Pride will also produce a California Lesbian and Gay Pride "pin," which will be for sale during the 1990 pride events.

The next meeting will take place Feb. 10, 1990, in San Diego, where the California advertising campaign will be discussed and implemented.

For more information regarding the California Association of Pride, call (213) 656-6553 or write to 7985 Santa Monica Blvd., #109-24, West Hollywood, CA 90046.

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Re-Bridging the Bay

DISPLACEMENT DILEMMA (A "Bumped" Nose)

Hmmmmmmmm? Where was my column last week, you ask? Well, because eight extra pages of AIDS deaths were added something had to go; and obviously, the news editor decided that the evil from this lesser would be expunged.

Hmmmmmmmmmm? You didn't even notice that it was missing? Harumph!

AquickCATCHupOFstuff (A "Nez's Notes" Nose)

The Town & Country is looking for Jim Hawkins. It has something to do with the World Series and good news related thereto.

Contact Sam or Steve for information pertaining to a non-four-legged kitty! A charity of Sam's choice could "feed the cat" if Mr. Hawkins doesn't show up soon.

Paddling the Poo Poo Department: According to Paul M., Val S. was mouthing off about the softball game (which isn't until May of 1990!) The big question going around town is, "Where is Val getting her team from next year? Modesto?" An enquiring mind wants to know.

Duchess Maxine won the best individual theme costume and ISE won best In-State presentation at Modesto's *Saturday Morning Cartoons* Coronation. Way to go!

TOYS FOR KIDS at Big Mama's, Sunday, Nov. 26, with a beer bust from 5 p.m. 'til the "keg floats!" Entertainment at 7 p.m., and toy judging at 8:30 p.m. Prizes are \$50 each for Best Female and Male Toy, Best original concept, and Best hand-made toy. MCs are Crown Prince David and "Countless" Trampolina Lopez. Toys and money raised will be donated to Oakland's Children's Hospital Toy Fund.

Next Thursday, Nov. 30, will be Big Mama's final day for "Children's Christmas Center" and it will be celebrated with a fantastic party! (There will be male strippers for your viewing enjoyment!)

Morgan and ISE presented "A Fantasy Night in ISE" at T&C, Friday, Nov. 17. Unfortunately, promotion was way late. Had I had information, I would have spread the word here last week but then the column was delivered but not used anyway so what's the difference anyhow Bunkie?

ISE Calendar of Events:

Sun. 11/19 2 p.m. Thanksgiving Baskets and Brunch, Mama C. pours.

Mon. 11/20 7 p.m., Coronation Committee meets in San Leandro

Sat. 12/2 8 p.m., Investiture Part II, Mama Chuckles pours.

Mon. 12/4 7 p.m., Board meeting in Fremont, contact Linda.

Wed. 12/6 7 p.m., Court Meeting, Town & Country, Oakland.

Mon. 12/11 7 p.m., Planning Committee, Bill's The Eagle, S.L.

Sat. 12/16 7 p.m., Holiday for ISE, Spoiled Brat, Hayward.

Sun. 12/17 4 p.m., Xmas Tree Decorating Contest and Bake Auction, Driftwood, Hayward.

Fri. 12/12 2 TBA, Stocking Stuffing Party TBA contact Michael.

Sat. 12/23 TBA Deliver Stockings, TBA, contact Timmi.

Sun. 12/31 9 p.m., Masquerade Ball/Show for New Year's Eve, Mama Chuckles pours; contact Toots!

INCREDULOUS PLEBISCITE
(A "Numb" Nose)

Let's see. If you **don't** want it abolished, you vote **YES**; if you **do** want it abolished, you vote **NO**. Or was it the other way around? It's **NO** if you want it to remain in effect and **YES** if you want to get rid of it. Or is it... Such confusion has no place on an election ballot with such an important issue at stake. Why do the powers that be allow that type of double negative writing to appear on a ballot? It's as if seemingly "honorable" people want to confuse the issues just for their



Yes, "Julia George" did cook brunch at Town & Country one Sunday.

own particular sick whimsies.

I sincerely feel sorry for Concord, and the 10,514 honest individuals who were explicit in voting to keep their city's anti-AIDS discrimination ordinance on the books.

And what about those ugly individuals—13,438 strong!—who voted to overturn the ordinance? What the Constitution and the Bill of Rights guarantees means nothing to Concord's bigots and simpletons.

What in the hell are those people thinking about? They actually voted for prejudice and discrimination!

Would that the "Christian" behind the removal movement experienced his own brand of hate and prejudice. Maybe in the next election the Eleventh Commandment, "Love One Another," will backfire on him and his faux church and the voters will choose to "outlaw" his label of narrow minded religion.

REQUISITE NECESSITUDE (A "Requesting" Nose)

Down Hayward way, Big Mama's is doing smashingly with its food and toy drive for the needy this Christmas. And, just because the "barrels are bulging" doesn't mean for anyone to slack up on the donating. Paudits and kudos to all customers, staff, and management of Big Mama's for this very worthwhile endeavor.

Keep you wallets "honed" for Ed Paulson's "last and BIGGEST" auction ever, next month. He wants every—as in the five from Hayward, the one from San Leandro, and the six from Oakland—gay bar in Alameda County to participate in this one great finale! (Jeeeeee! What a photo that would make!)

Big Mama's is looking for a hospital bed, good condition of course. The bar has been made aware that an individual is in need of such a bed, and the prices from the commercial outlets are too *outta* sight!

If you happen to have one, or know someone who has one, and the bed can be *donated*, contact Jim or any bartender at Big Mama's. Pickup and delivery can be arranged. Call today, 881-9310. You'll be glad you did.

AGAINST THE COAST?

(An "On The Other Coast?" Nose)

Through the tunnel (and over the woods to Grandmother's...)

D.J.'s in Walnut Creek is, once again, starting trends. Every Wednesday during November features special non-alcoholic drinks for only \$1.25 a pop, from 4 p.m. to 2 a.m.

It's hard to believe but D.J.'s celebrated its Second Anniversary last Sunday, and what a festive event it was! Congratulations to Don, Joe and the entire staff. "They" said it couldn't be done, but, by golly, you guys did it!

UNOMALISTIC HOWBEIT SOOTHFAST (An "Invited" Nose)

One thing always leads to another even though everyday seems to be same-o, same-o. But, every once in awhile something different and exciting happens. Such was the case of "fulfillment" this last week.

Way, way back in July, a letter was written to me and sent to the B.A.R. A few weeks passed and the letter was forwarded on to me. A few months passed and I finally responded to the letter.

The letter started: "Dear Nez—Just read your great item in B.A.R. and you seem like our kind of people!" It went on to mention that the writer and his lover have been together for 30 years, they had recently moved to Oakland (from Florida) and were interested in expanding their list of people with whom they could socialize.

There was an invitation to a party in August, but, alas, I failed to respond in time to attend. Finally, on a whim, I did call and apologized for my short comings—watch it, bitch!—and laid the ground work for some future meeting.

Well, dear reader, last Saturday my spouse and I did attend a smart dinner party in the Oakland/Montclair hills and finally met our gracious hosts, Dick and Gene. It was no surprise that we hadn't met before, but what did strike me was that there were some longtime residents of the East Bay there and we knew none of them!

It was a festive and enjoyable evening, and me thinks that just perchance there could be two or three new couples with whom my spouse and I can socialize. What a way to start the Holiday Season—more names and addresses on the X-mas card list!

The only way I know how to keep my word is not to give it in the first place. Should I smile? Why not! Love, Nez

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Bashers

(Continued from page 1)

torney, said that the appeal court decision was justified.

"It was a misdemeanor that resulted in death. That just doesn't make it murder," White said.

She also said that Timothy White, her client, has changed a great deal since the assault.

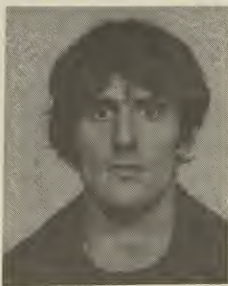
"He was very drunk the night of the incident. He has acknowledged that he has an alcohol problem. He's grown up a lot.

"This ruling is another form of gay bashing."
—Mayor Art Agnos

He's a very different person than the closed-minded, easily swayed toward hatred teen-ager that grew up in Vallejo. Prison has really opened his eyes," White said.

"This ruling is another form of gay bashing," said Mayor Art Agnos, denouncing the Supreme Court decision. "Patrick O'Connell won't be home for Christmas, but his killers might be. It simply sends the wrong message."

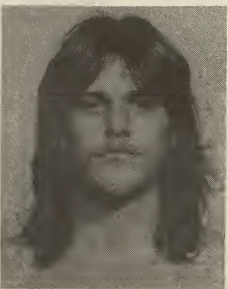
A spokesman for Gov. George Deukmejian said that the governor was aware of the court's decision, but that no one had yet asked him to comment on it during "media availability."



Timothy White.



David Rogers.



Donald Clanton.

Candlelight

(Continued from page 3)

Ten years ago, on May 21, 1979, police and gays battled in the streets of the Castro and at City Hall. Last month an out of control police department again invaded the Castro.

Ten years ago Jones joined many thousands for the first March on Washington in 1979. Next week he will be in Washington planning to participate in an act of civil disobedience at the White House.

Milk operated a camera shop on Castro Street and from that location managed to put together a coalition of people that would propel him to public office in 1977. At that time, San Francisco elected their supervisors by district and Milk campaigned aggressively as an openly gay candidate and was elected as the representative of District 5.

In June 1978 Milk told the gay community, "I want to recruit you for the fight to preserve your democracy from the John Briggs and the Anita Bryants who are trying to constitutionalize bigotry."

"We are not going to allow that to happen. We are not going to sit back in silence as 300,000 of our gay brothers and sisters did in Nazi Germany. We are not go-

ing to allow our rights to be taken away and then march with bowed heads into gas chambers on this anniversary of Stonewall. I ask my gay sisters and brothers to make the commitment to fight: for themselves; for their freedom; for their country."

For gay people Milk said, "We will not win their rights by staying quietly in our closets. . . We are coming out! We are coming out to fight the lies, the myths, the distortions! We are coming out to tell the truth about gays!"

"For I'm tired of the conspiracy of silence. I'm tired of listening to the Anita Bryants twist the language and the meaning of the Bible to fit their own distorted outlook. But I'm even more tired of the silence from the religious leaders of this nation who know that she is playing fast and loose with the true meaning of the Bible. I'm tired of their silence more than of her biblical gymnastics."

In the year that followed, San Francisco's gay community joined with gays throughout the state to fight a state ballot issue that would have prohibited gay teachers from teaching in public schools. Led by state Sen. John Briggs, the issue created a platform for Milk as he moved across the state in debate after debate with Briggs. On Election Day in November 1978, the Briggs initiative was resoundingly defeated at the polls.

In the days that followed, San Francisco found itself in a state of confusion as events unfolded. Dan White, a conservative supervisor from the southern part of the city, resigned from office. He then asked for his seat back from Mayor George Moscone.

A few days later, thousands died in Jonestown with cult leader Jim Jones. Jones headed the People's Temple, located at Geary and Fillmore streets, and created the Guyana settlement. He had been a strong political force in San Francisco, including serving as a city commissioner.

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NGRA

(Continued from page 1)

"I am asking you to contribute immediately to help NGRA begin legal action against these insurers within 30 days (by March 15). . . We must immediately prepare briefs, identify plaintiffs, carry out legal and medical research and investigate defendants as part of our massive counterattack. Please write an extra-large check. Please give serious consideration to a gift of \$10," the mailer urgently pleaded.

Yet, despite the desperate pitch for funds, including a "sweetener" that an anonymous long time supporter of NGRA had contributed a \$10,000 matching grant toward funds raised, no such lawsuit was ever filed.

"Something happened and there was no need to file a lawsuit," Craff told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

That something is that the lawsuit became moot when targeted insurers began to pay for prophylactic pentamidine treatment. Donors were never notified.

NGRA

NGRA "did a great deal of lying," charged Bill Eisentraut, the agency's former director of community affairs. "Our direct-mail pieces were definitely misleading," he said. "There was never a note [to donors] saying that we're going to take your money and spend it elsewhere, which was the fully legal thing to do," Eisentraut said.

Non-profit agencies operate under the public trust, notes one development and fundraising expert with a decade of service to local charitable groups.

That only 20 percent of the public interest law firm's budget goes to legal services is "very suspicious," said Rawna Romero.

"I'd have very strong concerns," she said. "It raises serious questions to me. Where is the rest of the money going?"

That an agency would raise money to support a specific effort or activity and then fail to do so is misrepresentation, Romero said.

Eisentraut said that another fundraising effort that fell through, the Manhattan Medical Project, raised funds and collected signatures for a petition to be sent to President George Bush, but that the signatures were never sent.

"The signatures went into a box somewhere. Where did those names go? I would have been the person to send them. They just disappeared," he said.

One gay lawyer said that NGRA should be put into receivership and its financial affairs handled by an outside administrator.

"It's a public interest law firm. It's like Shanti. You can't let management do this kind of thing," Mary Dunlap said. "It's killing the goose that laid the golden egg."

Attempts to contact O'Leary or members of the NGRA board of directors by press time were unsuccessful.

The *Bay Area Reporter* has formally requested that the agency release the records of charitable contributions received for 1988 and 1989 as well as a copy of its budget expenditures and income.

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BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

'thirtysomething' Feels the Heat

Far Right Wrote Advertisers

by Michael C. Botkin

In a prime-time television first, *thirtysomething* portrayed a gay man in bed with another man on its Nov. 7 episode. Well before the episode aired, Donald Wildmon of the American Family Association had sent threatening letters to the show's advertisers, warning of possible boycotts if they "promoted homosexuality." Although many sponsors did pull their advertising for that episode—the *New York Times* estimated that ABC lost \$1.5 million in sales—the show's producers insist that the incident will "not affect how we write the show."

Wildmon, in a letter to E&J Gallo dated Oct. 2, and presumably sent to other sponsors as well, said that "ABC will use their program *thirtysomething* to promote homosexuality during the fall." He acknowledged that "ABC has every right to promote homosexuality... if they wish," but warned that he would "identify companies which help sponsor the program as the leading homosexual promoting sponsors." Wildmon threatened to "identify the sponsors through our network of Christian



The cast of *thirtysomething*.

leaders," closing his letter to Gallo with this statement: "I thought it only fair to inform you of our intentions before hand so that you can make any adjustments necessary, should you need and desire to make any."

"Efforts like these are very effective in creating a chilling climate," said Stephan Miller, of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD), "although I think their threats of boycotts are a smokescreen, since no one's ever lost any money to one." Miller pointed out that last season ABC had three shows with regular gay characters, but that there are none this season (Russell, in *thirtysomething*, is a supporting character).

In his own letter to Gallo, Miller challenged Wildmon's characterization of ABC as "promoting" homosexuality. "Television shows which realistically portray characters who happen to be gay or lesbian (like 25 million other Americans) are not 'promoting homosexuality,' but simply showing America without the blinders of prejudice. We strongly feel that accurate representation of all segments of our society are key to a stronger, healthier America which truly embodies 'liberty and justice for all,'" he wrote.

"Sponsors are very much afraid of offending any sector of the consuming public," Miller

(Continued on page 52)

Can TV Promote Homosexuality?

by Daniel Mangin

Let's admit right off the bat that the various right-wing and fundamentalist media watchdog groups have a point when they protest that television shows with homosexual characters—particularly characters who are portrayed in a positive

being enlisted by a straight woman into a little matchmaking scheme for the benefit of the gay character. How much more of an admission (a promotion of the idea?) that gays are accepted and acceptable could there be?

Describing everything from gay artworks to AIDS education programs as "promoting homosexuality" has become the preferred form of attack by the right wing ever since the concept caught on so well in Britain during the campaign for Clause 28. (The English law specifically forbids local authority money to any project that would "promote" homosexuality.)

The phrase, which plays perfectly into the unfounded but nevertheless real fears of a significant portion of the population that homosexuality is something one (and, in particular, defenseless young children) can be "lured" into, is also the cornerstone of Jesse Helms' assault on the NEA and Donald Wildmon's pressure on television advertisers.

Regarding Mr. Helms' campaign, one wonders why gay taxpayers should not be entitled to a little return on their tax dollars in the form of support for their

(Continued on page 42)

Commentary

manner—"promote homosexuality." The mounds of research proving the matter aside, instinct alone would lead most to conclude that if a relatively little-known and often maligned group—blacks in the 1950s and 1960s, or gays in the present, for instance—were depicted as humane, caring and intelligent beings, a positive shift in attitudes about them might likely occur.

Take the Nov. 7 episode of *thirtysomething*. Not only are the two gay characters who appear in this installment relatively well-balanced, and not only do they seem to have the same concerns about life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness as the nongay characters, the two gays are also totally integrated into their (admittedly upscale) society. So much so that a straight guy doesn't mind

The Master Triumphs Again

Garments the Living Wear

by James Purdy; City Lights Books; 152 pp.; \$6.95.

by Kevin Killian

Jared Wakeman and Desmond Cantrell, two actors in love, share a cold-water flat in present-day Manhattan. Desmond Cantrell, the less talented yet more lovable of the two, has AIDS. Estrellita Fuentes is the exotic young Cuban wife of Edward Hennings, the richest, and perhaps the oldest, man in the world. Blonde Peg Sawbridge and her raven-haired daughter Cleo are socialites in the glittering world of Manhattan's *nouveaux riches* (they're like Blaine and Ivana Trump, only more human). Jonas Hakluyt is a young and wildly successful pop evangelist, "the rage of the dispossessed young," whose specialty is "hemorrhaging from his lips when he is at the height of his oratory."

I'd need several pages of logarithmic flow charts to diagram the love attachments among these seven characters. Around them swirls the action of *Garments the Living Wear*, the 14th novel of the New York writer James Purdy. It's not only Pur-

dy's finest novel in some time, but an invaluable text sure to intrigue everyone interested in current developments in culture, sexuality and power relations. It's short, so short you can read it in an hour and a half, and that's dandy since it will give you plenty of time to read it over again and again until, satiated, you fall off into a nightmarish, vivid slumber. When you awake you will be more beautiful than Rita Hayworth, and with ten times the memories.

Overwhelming, Feverish

James Purdy has written some of the best novels of our century, including *Malcolm*, *Eustace Chisholm and the Works*, *Narrow Rooms*, and *In a Shallow Grave*. To my mind he's one of a few living masters. But he's never been sufficiently appreciated or rewarded by the publishing industry, perhaps because of the homoerotic imagination that fuels his work.

Yes, maybe even a straight writer dealing with the same

overheated and angelic materials that pass for plot in his work would have had trouble attaining a mass audience—it's hard to hypothesize in a vacuum.

Suffice it to say, Purdy's sex writing is overwhelming, feverish; it would excite a dead man. Kinky, too: "Des began sobbing, dry little convulsive sobs, and Estrellita, taking advantage of his weakness, was removing, piece by piece, all his clothing."

(But this won't seem as kinky to you who haven't read the book and don't know that the beautiful Estrellita is in secret some kind of Cuban hermaphrodite, with a woman's breasts and the "red and gold coloring, the penis and scrotum resembling those of the child-gods of Raphael.") Very rarely do Purdy's characters have sex without one of them crying—and why not, it's so beautiful, and one of them is always so weak.)

She paused a long time over

(Continued on page 34)

GARMENTS THE LIVING WEAR





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ART NEWS

Censorship Alleged

Lesbian Artist to Sue Art Center

by Jay Newquist

A lesbian artist plans to sue and ask for a public apology following what she alleges to be the censorship of her video about "coming out" while it was on exhibition recently at the Richmond Art Center.

Kimberly Disney reported last week that she has approached the Oakland-based law firm of Friend and Friedman to pursue the suit. Disney complained that officials at the center placed a warning card on her exhibit urging parental discretion because of the video's content.

The 45-minute electronic interactive video, *Truth and Consequences*, explores homophobia and Disney's own coming out process as a lesbian through frank, personal observations.

Disney appears in the video, which encouraged viewers to participate in her personal statement by recording their responses to her work on audio equipment she provided.

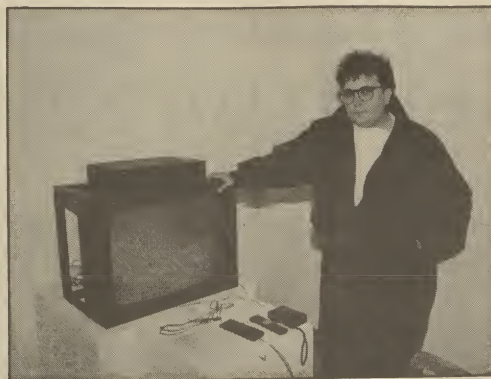
"At first I thought it was kind of funny," Disney recalled when she saw the warning card, "but then I got angry that the gallery didn't notify me that the exhibit was censored."

Disney, 22, said people had complained about the video's female nudity, which she said lasted only 45 seconds and was shot out of focus.

Homosexual Content The Issue

She concluded, however, that the exhibit was censored for its homosexual content, because another exhibit contained nudity and wasn't censored.

"It's OK to come out, we're no different," Disney said, asking why same sex couples can't hold hands on the street. "They [the center] don't realize people around them may be gay and this [censorship] perpetuates homophobia."



Artist Kimberly Disney.

Zlata Baum, curator of the exhibition, which opened Oct. 5, said parental discretion was advised about Disney's video because the content was simply too rough.

"There was explicit use of nudity in a scene and extremely graphic language," she said, indicating the rest of Disney's piece was impressive and "treated an important issue that needs to be addressed."

Michael Schwager, curator of the Richmond Art Center, also praised Disney's work, but disputed her claim the video had been censored. The warning card was put in place near the end of the exhibition, which closed Nov. 19.

"There have been censorship issues in the arts recently and [in this case] we're not altering a work or removing it from view," Schwager said. "We've done neither."

Schwager, who said he was unaware there was nudity elsewhere in the exhibition, said the center was merely "alerting people that the video material was of an adult nature and may be uncomfortable to a certain audience."

Audience Had Responded Well

A graduate of the California College of Arts and Crafts in 1988, Disney said that, judging from the content and number of their audio recordings, viewers responded well to the video before the warning card was put on view, but in its wake the video was essentially overlooked.

A successful designer of video and pinball arcade games, Disney took another body blow in the Nov. 16 issue of *Art Week* when writer Karen Jelenfy slammed the video.

Jelenfy said the "trite" exhibit "trivialized her [Disney's] homosexuality by meandering, soggy monologue through which she chooses to 'come out.'"

Disney said she merely sought an apology from the Richmond Art Center for the warning card and the breach of faith. In light of other attacks on the First Amendment rights of gay artists she has decided it is important to take a stand.

"They handled the situation poorly. They knew what was in the video when I agreed to be in the show. I wouldn't have been in the show at all if I knew it would be censored!"

Outraged Reaction after Cancellation

NEA Restores AIDS Show Grant

by Michael C. Botkin

Only a week after cancelling a grant to an AIDS art show in New York City, the new chairman of National Endowment of the Arts, John E. Frohnmayer, recanted and restored the funding. Frohnmayer reconsidered his stance after enduring a week of outraged reactions, and previewed the show while hundreds protested outside. Shortly afterward, he dropped his opposition to the show.

Citing the recently passed law that bans funding of homoerotic art, Frohnmayer announced two weeks ago that he was withholding a \$10,000 grant from a show titled "Witnesses: Against Our Vanishing," scheduled to be shown at the Artists' Space, a New York City gallery. Significantly, he insisted that his action was motivated by the political and not the sexual content of the works. "There are specific derogatory references in the show to Senator Helms, Congressman Dannemeyer, and Archbishop O'Connor which make it political," Frohnmayer was quoted as

saying in a Nov. 9 *New York Times* article. Susan Wyatt, executive director of Artists Space, said in the *Times* "He [Frohnmayer] is sending out a message to each and every art institution around the country that they can't do anything that's essentially controversial. This is setting a very dangerous precedent."

The *Times* reported that in a letter to Artists Space Frohnmayer asked that the endowment's name be removed from the list of sponsors, and the \$10,000 grant be returned. The grant was approved in February, before specific works had been selected for exhibition. The show, which was curated by Boston artist Nan Goldin, includes works by 23 artists, some portraying gay sex. Frohnmayer claimed that, "Between the time the panel approved the grant and the way the show developed, it turned into a political statement."

According to Wyatt, the objectionable statements are actually part of the show's catalogue, not

the art works themselves. She was quoted in the *Times* as saying "They are strong statements by photographer David Wojnarowicz, who has AIDS and who expresses his anger toward statements by these three individuals against safe sex." The catalogue was largely funded by a grant from the Robert Mapplethorpe Foundation; it was an exhibit of Mapplethorpe's work which inspired Helms' attacks on the NEA.

Frohnmayer's rejection of the Artists Space grant, the first application of a compromise law Congress passed after Helms introduced a bill requiring strict regulation of NEA grants, drew praise from conservative politicians. "Senator Helms was much more pleased by this than he was by the NEA's reaction under the former acting chairman to the Mapplethorpe exhibit," a representative for Senator Helms was quoted as saying. Congressman William Dannemeyer thanked Frohnmayer "for doing what I think Congress told him to do."

(Continued on page 38)

Poaching on the Outskirts of Ecstasy

Three visitors to San Francisco take us poaching on the outskirts of ecstasy. To celebrate his 76th birthday, that Emperor of Ecstasy James Broughton, came to town on the 12th to address his favorite subject in a reading of his newest poems. Then, last Saturday, piano player and singer Harry Connick, Jr., made his local debut in a scorching performance at the Warfield Theatre, which was greeted with general ecstasy. And tonight in Herbst Hall, continental sensation Ute Lemper will make her local debut with a concert of Kurt Weill songs, and we'll take our own measure of the ecstatic reviews she's received abroad.

★ ★ ★

"My aim is to make the world safe for the amorous," said James Broughton at his birthday reading at the Intersection. At age 76, James has the same effect on me as Harry Connick—yet James' are the ecstasies of love, which grow in us long after the notes of a piano have ceased reverberating. James Broughton is a received blessing. And that's why a sizeable family of Broughton addicts was present to receive the blessing of his newest poems.

Most movingly, these included statements of age and reflection, of the scourge of AIDS. "How often do you think about Death?" asks the first line of one. "I Sleep With Elegies" assuages

our many losses to AIDS, while "Settling the Dust" is one of several "summing up" poems from the poet. Yet coming from James' bountiful heart, they can't be depressing. In the middle one, he states, "My usual text is Hooray for the Inevitable, with an extra hip hip for Love and Folly."

"Life's not a hoosegow, it's a risky parole," reads James from his latest work, a long poem called "The Last Sermon of Gnarly Never." It frames a career in poetry that began in 1948 with another poem of summing up, "The Ballad of Mad Jenny." The new one, though, is directly in the poet's voice.

"The truth of my life lies in everyone I've loved," James read.

"Sure, I've had my assignments of ouch and dismay. . . / But they don't stop my getting up in the morning / to throw more sparklers at gloom salesmen.

"In the here and the now, in what's left of forever / Watch the balls bounce and the cookies crumble. . . / Hurrah for Creation! Huzzah for you all!"

After reading, James was engaged by Michael McClure in a conversation for the audience's eavesdropping. Asked to qualify his style, James quipped, "I guess I'm a lyrical poet—cheerful poets are usually called that. Although I enjoy the imperative tense—I like to be exhortatory."



James Broughton: Emperor of Ecstasy.

(Photo: Rink)

"Everybody Out!," an exhortation for National Coming Out Day, is an illustration. "Can't we move to a neighborhood of loving? We have enough heating equipment to furnish every room with astonishment."

Explaining the inspirations which turned him to poetry, James said, "It's really Shakespeare who turned me on to the voices and sounds of the word. When people express themselves poetically, it's so much more

meaningful than 'yeah.' "

But his interest in poetry was philosophical, too. "To live poetically was the most important thing in the world," he said, "even more important than writing poems."

Alan Watts and the precepts of Buddhism figure in helping James attain that life in poetry. But there were lessons he admitted receiving from a not short-lived exposure to psychotherapy. "Adler, Freud, Jung, Hiller—I've done it all," James shrugged as if singing a personalized verse of "I'm Still Here."

The message, he said, is "to get along with yourself, to make your complexes stay over there in the corner."

If you do this, "You get over the personal into the transpersonal." And that, he concluded, "lets you get to the essential and the ecstatic."

James' new poems of the essential and the ecstatic, in a volume called *Special Deliveries*, will be published in the spring. For now, here's our best birthday wishes.

★ ★ ★

Making her first American tour, Ute Lemper will demonstrate tonight (Herbst Hall, 8 p.m., 552-3656) what has made her the successor to Lotte Lenya as the Official Weill Chanteuse. The 26-year-old Continental star

(Continued on next page)



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When experience and compassion count

Karr

(Continued from previous page)

rose to fame by playing Grizabella in the Viennese edition of *Cats*, and Sally Bowles in a Paris revival of *Cabaret*.

In between these she did a cabaret of Weill tunes, which was recorded on a German label. On this album she looks and sounds like a rock star. She's photographed in casual poses, her hair mussed, her body sprawling. Her raw chest, belting mid-range, and thin upper register are barely connected. But the album helped bring her into the arms of London Records, the label which markets superstars (Pavarotti, Sutherland, Ashkenazy).

Both her voice and looks were groomed for her first London album, a Weill recital with full orchestra. On this record, Lemper displays a smoother vocal technique, and appears in glamor photos which play up, with perfectly coiffed hair, unerring makeup, and severe tailored suit, the Deitrich-like fatality of her beauty.

This is partially a pose. I've no doubt that Lemper is a star. She has the charisma, the voice and temperament, as well as the deepest throaty gurgle of a German growled "R." But Weill asks for a special dose of worldliness, a patina of age and experience, which Lemper is still acquiring. But London Records has her scheduled to sing the leading roles in a series of forthcoming Weill recordings, and her concert tonight is our chance to catch her at the beginning of what is obviously going to be an impressive career.



The glamorous Ute Lemper.

★ ★ ★

Harry Connick, Jr. absolutely snowed San Francisco with his local debut last Saturday at the Warfield Theatre. An amazing piano player, Connick also sang with a disarmingly romantic voice. But here's what really slayed the audience—he tap danced, played drums and string bass, did stand up comedy, and handled the sold-out, raucous house like a pro.

Which, of course, he is. This 22-year-old hot shot comes from a family of musicians, and has been performing in his native New Orleans since he was a tot. Like Nat Cole, Connick first gained attention as a pianist, but grew to mass popularity as a singer. It was his vocals in the film, *When Harry Met Sally*, that put him over the top with some big band arrangements of standards, and when recreated at the Warfield, these proved as exciting as Judy at Carnegie Hall.

Despite an audio mix which boosted the string bass til it over-

rode the entire orchestra and wearied this listener, Connick's concert was an incredible introduction to the multi-talented kid. It'll long be remembered as the kick-off to a lifetime of Connick fandom.

Connick's is the postmodern answer to a 50-year history of jazz piano, mixing Dixieland, stride and other styles together, with fleeting reminiscences of piano greats, including Fats Waller, Earl Hines, Duke Ellington, and Willie the Lion Smith. In his piano solos, Connick loves to fracture a tune into cubist shards and then let them suddenly coalesce into the tune as we know it. He's a reckless piano player, splashing clusters of notes and eruptions of rhythms all over the joint in a keyboard frenzy. In simpler moods, he distills Darius Milhaud, with different keys for



The handsome Harry Connick, Jr.

each hand and an elegant sparseness of notes. These two styles make "It Had to be You" a *turangalila* of joy, and "Where or When" a minimalist serenade.

Connick's musical mind is fun and brilliantly inventive. In concert, he surpassed the arrangements on his records, offering spontaneous joy: you've not heard Harry til you've heard him live. And although the most advantageous setting for Harry would be a jazz club, his growing popularity is likely to bring him back for another orchestra-backed concert like this one. Watch for it.

Lean, suave, a brilliant baby in an Armani suit, Connick's a looker, having the same hysterical effect on an audience as the young Sinatra. He's also a dynamite talent. ▼

SYMPHONY

Lukas Foss Conducts

All American Night at Symphony

by Philip Campbell

The Fourth of July is some seven months away, but that didn't stop visiting conductor Lukas Foss from presenting an all American composers night with the San Francisco Symphony last week. The performances and repertoire were hardly the best this country has to offer; nevertheless we should be thankful for small favors, considering the usual absence of American writers from most concert bills.

Born in Berlin, Lukas Foss

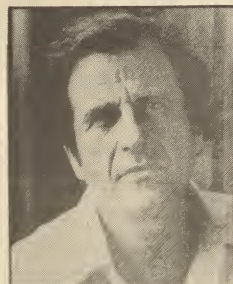
settled in this country at 15. He now lives in New York City. Equally talented and admired as a composer, conductor, pianist and teacher he is an important part of the American musical scene. Foss' appearance during the second week of this season's New and Unusual Music Series found him cast as conductor. The program also afforded a hearing of his brilliant and playfully gimmicky *Baroque Variations*. After 22 years, they still manage to upset some listeners, although no one could be too outraged by their obvious good humor.

In three sections, each based on actual music by Handel, Scarlatti and Bach respectively, Foss drops notes, experiments with distances and dismantles and clumsily reassembles (by intention) a Bach Prelude—complete with electric organ. It sounds like a transmission to outer space, bounced back by a quirky malfunctioning satellite. The *Variations* are funny, intriguing and irritating. The composer makes no apologies, and the few hearty boos heard at the Herbst Theatre performance with members of the San Francisco Symphony playing only underlined the power of his invention.

Taking the podium at Davies Hall, Mr. Foss pretty much played it safe, opening with a bright interpretation of Aaron Copland's *Suite from Billy the Kid* and closing with Leonard Bernstein's mighty inflated *Suite from On the Waterfront*. No insights into the vast treasure trove of American music were forthcoming, but it was entertaining as both Copland and Bernstein are known to be.

A deeper side of Bernstein was explored with a tantalizing movement from the *Symphony No. 2*, "The Age of Anxiety." Foss has recorded the difficult piano part and he navigated the harrowing jazz flavored "Masque" with comparable flare in person. Keyboard principal Robin Sutherland also won enthusiastic applause for his supporting role in this segment and for solo contributions throughout the evening. What a pity the second half of the program was not concerned with the whole of Bernstein's stunning symphony. The film score for *On the Waterfront* is highly evocative and contains one of the composer's best tunes, but it also is a monument to bloated orchestration and the spiky intense *Age of Anxiety* might have

alerted new listeners to Bernstein's neglected symphonic output.

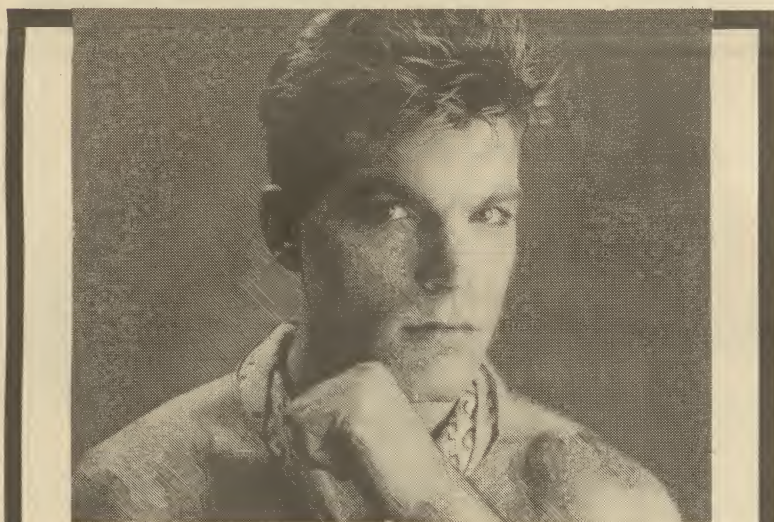


Lukas Foss.

In four songs dealing with time, Foss has chosen his texts well. W.H. Auden's verse has inspired more than a few good musicians to some of their best work and Foss' setting of "We're Late" is terse and appropriate. A.E. Housman's "When the Bells Jostle" serves as a sort of rueful scherzo, framed by Franz Kafka's diaries. "Sechzehnter Januar" (16 January) is the most ambitious and atmospheric. Time is adamant and the ticking of a clock lends bleak power to the amazing range required of the soprano—including speech and a pure high C. "O Mensch! Gib Acht!" (O Man! Take Heed!) from Nietzsche's *Also Sprach Zarathustra* brings the cycle to a satisfying close. Foss is light years away from Richard Strauss' symphonic poem on the same subject, and his piece bears little kinship to Mahler's setting of the same words in his *Symphony No. 3*.

As the most lyric movement in "Time Cycle," the composer allows Nietzsche subtle and inventive orchestral support and instructs musicians not playing at certain moments to whisper the twelve numbers of the clock—an inspired bit of theater and typical of Foss' sense of spontaneity.

Lukas Foss has written some other wonderful, purely orchestral scores, notably *Orpheus and Euridice* (1972), which can be sampled on an excellent compact disc from New World Records. When Mr. Foss is asked to visit again, and I certainly hope he will, perhaps we could be treated to some more of his own compositions, along with more challenging pieces from Copland, Bernstein or the host of masterful American writers who await a hearing at Davies Hall. ▼



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'2 Acts of Passion'

Slicing Through the Veneer

by David Perry

Sometimes, the tiniest nick can unleash the seething pus of prejudice harboring under the skin. *2 Acts of Passion*, the first-ever collaboration between ACT and the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, has at our flesh with butcher knives and axes. In two taut hours, Amiri Baraka's *Dutchman* and Arthur Miller's *Clara* slice across our smiling liberal veneers with breathtaking aim. In production and concept, it is an effective meeting of black and white artists, culminating in a dramatically riveting portrait of rage.

When *Dutchman* opened off-Broadway in early 1964, Baraka was still known as LeRoi Jones, and the *Civil Rights Act* (first sponsored in 1948) was inching towards law. It was an auspicious debut for the playwright who three years later would change his name and be arrested during the Newark race riots.

To read *Dutchman* is to touch white-hot hatred, so vitriolic is Baraka's diatribe against racial integration. It is an unbudging manifesto to Baraka's belief that white and black cannot and should not live together; and when forced, will kill each other.

To see *Dutchman* performed—an extreme theatrical rarity—is to suffer burns of the soul.

Set entirely on a New York subway car, *Dutchman* is a constantly escalating dance to the death

between a black and white "Everyman." As performed by Lauren Lane, Baraka's apple-offering Lula is a pale Siren of death. As Michael McFall's unsuspecting Clay accepts, you half expect razor blades to pop from the core. It is a strange fruit indeed the white temptress offers. She coos, she struts, she plays with racial typing as she lures Clay in—a suit-wearing black from New Jersey "too pretentious to be a Jackson or a Johnson."

"I lie a lot," Lula warns him straddling his thigh. "It helps me control the world." And yet, Clay smilingly lets Lula slap him, tease him into submission, all the while suppressing his own "Uncle Tom" tendencies. Baraka does not paint us a pretty picture. By the end of the seduction, every taboo-laden word that polite society pretends never to hear will be uttered; every carefully legislated equality stripped to its bones. This is the type of theatre that incites riots.

Stanley E. Williams' superb direction is as straight as a shot; Pamela Peniston's set and Stephanie Johnson's lighting as eerily frightening as a real New York subway, graffitied and tense. The seats are lined with a coffin-like material, the walls like the iron of a vault. Just right.

Miller's *Clara*, a largely unknown work which had its first production only two years ago at New York's Lincoln Center,

brings the racial battle home to a personal level. Albert Kroll (Sydney Walker) discovers the horribly mutilated body of his social worker daughter Clara (Lauren Lane). Fainting from shock, he revives at the feet of Detective Lieutenant Fine (Steven Anthony Jones), a veteran inspector who must ask Kroll the most painful of questions before the murderer gets too far away. Kroll is white. Fine is black. The murderer, almost certainly an ethnic minority that is neither. Miller's seamless jigsaw puzzle of a play is not only a tension-filled mystery, but also an exploration of society's attempts to free itself from prejudice. Again and again it confirms Miller's place as America's greatest living playwright.

Walker, ACT's most versatile member, turns in a performance bleeding with pain. The tissue deep levels of Miller's script are mined again and again as Walker weighs his love for his murdered daughter against the lifetime acquisition of his own hard won liberal tolerance. Like so much of Miller's writing, this is a portrait of tragic dimensions, a Willy Loman at the edge of an abyss, brought to life at Walker's seasoned hands. As Detective Fine, a part originally written to be Jewish and not black, Jones is unrelenting yet gentle. Ed Hastings, aided by Jill Posener's



Steven Anthony Jones (left) and Sydney Walker in *Clara*.

well-executed scenic projections, directs with quicksilver pacing. His changing of Fine's role to that of a black man broadens the scope of Miller's play while detracting nothing from the original intent. In this venue, *Clara* is an exploration of racial prejudice. However, its scope is catholic. Homophobia and sexism are equally visible.

Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, recently moved into its permanent home in downtown's theatre district, is a welcome addition, as is ACT's continuing collaborative commitment. The two companies will join forces again in June for the Bay Area premiere of South African writer Lisette Lecat Ross's *Dark Sun*. As a society, and community, which too often pretends racism is a thing of the past, LHT and ACT have provid-

ed us with vivid reminder that they are not.

When plastic Aunt Jemimas and racial stereotypes line the shelves of Castro boutiques for intended "humor" and garnered profits, we need the reminder. If Baraka's *Dutchman* and Miller's *Clara* disturb us, they should. As Detective Fine reminds the grieving father in *Clara*, "we are all just a step away from a statistic." It is a lesson the gay community knows only too well. Seeing its parallels in the black community's continuing struggle for civil rights should make us more sensitively committed to our own. ▼

2 Acts of Passion
Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, 620 Sutter St. (at Mason); Tues-Sat., 8 p.m., Sun., 7 p.m.; Sat. & Sun. matinee, 2 p.m.; 749-2228.



Lauren Lane (left) meets Michael McFall on a subway train in *Dutchman*.

Puddle Travelers

Slipping Away

by David Perry

At one point in the multimedia show *Puddle Travelers* by Nightletter Theater at Fort Mason's Life on the Water, a character comes forward and expresses her fear:

"You're slipping away, like a dream. When you wake up in the morning and can't remember your dreams, they slip away."

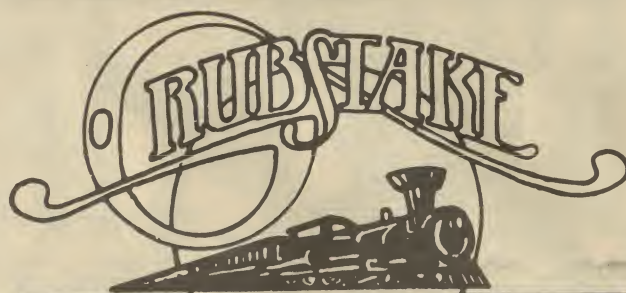
Puddle Travelers, an expertly woven pastiche of film, slides, grotesquely beautiful sculpture-costumes and live onstage interaction, slips away like just such a waking dream. It resonates with a disturbing and surreal humor, the type that only inhabits the world of our sleeping subconscious. However, after it's over, and you've shaken off the subse-



A puddle traveler.

quent grogginess, *Puddle Travelers* departs without much lasting impact. You want a cup of coffee.

In much the same way as George Coates Performance
(Continued on page 39)



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Gay Filmmaker Remembers Russia

Moscow Almost Believes in Queers

by Marc Huestis

This past summer, San Francisco filmmaker Marc Huestis brought his award-winning film (made in collaboration with Wendy Dallas), *Chuck Solomon: Coming of Age, to the Soviet Union as part of the "Sex in the American Cinema" series at the Moscow Film Festival* organized by the San Francisco International Film Festival.

Coming of Age is a celebration of the life of Chuck Solomon, a major figure in the gay theatre community of San Francisco who was diagnosed with AIDS in 1985. Huestis' other films include the camp classic *What Ever Happened to Susan Jane?* and the soon-to-be-released *Men in Love*.

The following are Huestis' observations about the somewhat surprising response to his film in the Soviet Union, gay life in Moscow and the effects of glasnost on gays and other Soviets.

When the call finally came confirming my invitation to the Moscow Film Festival, I could barely contain my excitement. The eclectic blend of films in the 14-day film "Sex in the American Cinema" series included *Blue Velvet*, *sex, lies and videotape*, *Blood Simple*, *Trash*, *Beyond the Valley of the*

Dolls, *Desert Hearts* and *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*.

Honored by the company, and with the spirit of "gay glasnost," I left San Francisco for Moscow, happy at the opportunity to witness firsthand the historic changes occurring in the Soviet Union.

Entering Moscow at 4:30 a.m., I was greeted by a beautiful young man representing Passport Control. "You are here for the festival," he said, smiling broadly. "Welcome to the Soviet Union."

Shortly afterwards, I felt feverish—the 30 hour flight had finally taken its toll. Perhaps this clouded my first impressions of Moscow—everything looked grey, the streets dirty, buildings in disrepair, my hotel room small and unwelcoming.

Huge AIDS Problem

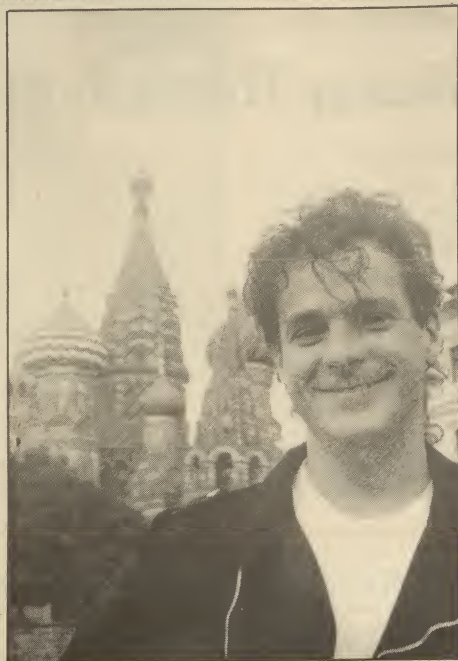
I recovered three days later, just in time for my first screening. Before it began, I met Basil Vassily, a film critic knowledgeable about the AIDS crisis within the Soviet Union. With Judy Stone of the *San Francisco Chronicle*, we talked about the AIDS program. "It is impossible to judge these films cinematically," said Basil, "because of their emotional content. The problem is so huge. We

are just now beginning to understand the magnitude of the epidemic."

As in America, as the crisis came out of the Soviet closet, so too did discussion of homosexuality. Repeal of the penal code, which presently prescribes an eight-year jail term for conviction of homosexual acts, is now before the Party Congress. Even should this legislation pass, however, a major change in Soviet attitudes towards gays needs to occur.

This was more than evident at the actual screening of the AIDS films. At 3 p.m. on a hot balmy day, in a theatre with no air-conditioning and poor ventilation, the place was packed! Maybe not surprising, except for the types that were in attendance. In the West, such a screening would be filled by gay men, lesbians and a smattering of sympathetic straights. Yet this crowd was much more indicative of work-a-day Soviet life, mostly straight, with many couples and, differences in style taken into account, very few gay-looking types.

As the movies unreel, the deadpan reaction of the crowd cued me to the difficulty people were having with the images. The constant show of affection between people of the same sex made the audience very restless.



Mark Huestis in the U.S.S.R.

When the lights came up there was dead silence. The majority of the crowd filed out quickly, as if gulping down bad medicine.

Questions About Perversity

The first questions in the discussion afterwards reflected the audience's consternation about gay lifestyles.

"Don't you think this is a perversity?" and "How can you be cured?" were the first two questions I was asked.

I hardly knew where to begin. I talked about the celebration of the 20th anniversary of Stonewall and how far we've come since 1969, then went into a bit of Russian history, naming notable gay figures in their past (Tchaikovsky, Eisenstein).

"We definitely don't think of ourselves as perverted," I said. "We see gay people as part of every facet of life: artists, doctors, engineers, socialists. To me the perversion is trying to hide it."

Thankfully the next comment was from a visibly moved woman who applauded me for making *Coming of Age*.

"I feel this film represents not only AIDS but the human condition," she said. "My sister recently died of cancer, deserted by most of her family and friends. Your film shows that this does not have to be the way."

The audience applauded, demonstrating that certain aspects of these films did touch them.

'Desert Hearts' Screens

"Many years from now I will look back and think I was here. To me this is a historic moment," Donna Deitch said after a screening of her film, *Desert Hearts*. Indeed, it was probably the first time that lesbian sex hit the screens of the USSR. As with the AIDS films, there was discomfort in the audience, but there was also warm applause at the film's end.

Questions from the audience probed with sophistication the liberties taken by the American cinema. Some admired our openness, others thought we had gone too far.

When one man asked, "What gave you the idea of making a film like this?" many in the audience laughed, but Donna responded seriously:

"In the history of the American cinema there hadn't been a personal film about a loving relationship between two women that didn't end in suicide, murder or a bisexual love triangle. I wanted to show things that are happening in the real world, that it's healthier than not discussing them and pretending that they don't exist."

(Continued on page 52)

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Donna Deitch shakes hands with the president of the Soviet Cinema Club Society.

'Steel Magnolias'

Reveling in the Acerbity of It All

by Dorothy Allison

"I'm not crazy. I've just been in a very, very bad mood for forty years." As soon as I heard that line, I slid down in my chair and relaxed. As Ouiser, the kind of small town eccentric who rushes around the neighborhood in overalls and a fur coat, Shirley MacLaine is like the lemon on the rim of the margarita glass, bringing up the sour salt quality the mix so badly needs. With her nasty "of course things can get worse" attitude *Steel Magnolias* would be too cloying even for the Christmas season.

This is one of those noble mama and martyred daughter stories, completely sincere and irritatingly simple. What saves it is that acerbic undertone. Beneath the facade of sweet sentimentality, the six women whose relationships frame the plot hide not only steel but a razor's edge. Mess with these women and they'll cut you to pieces with their tongues. Listen to them ragging on their husbands, neighbors and each other, and you could hurt yourself laughing so hard.

Besides Shirley MacLaine, *Steel Magnolias* features Sally Field, Dolly Parton, Daryl Hannah, Olympia Dukakis and Julia Roberts, all of whom do southern accents to a turn, though Olympia Dukakis does hide a hint of South Boston. Daryl Hannah is a surprise as frumpy Annelle, valedictorian of her hairdo class and Dolly Parton's new assistant who turns up the day of Shelby's wedding—just in time to set Shelby's mama's hair into her traditional "brown football helmet." Sally Field is suitably feisty as mama while Julia Roberts is just marvelous as the doomed but determined daughter. In point of fact, they are all wonderful—ensemble actresses every one. Unfortunately, other than smile through tears and deliver some of the funniest one-liners I've heard since the last southern women's potluck, there just isn't that much for them to do.

Surprising Gay Subtext

Robert Harling wrote this very successful play in homage to his mother and sister shortly after his sister's death and his love for them is evident throughout. But what has made the play such a success is not the story, which is so thin it's irritating every time it interrupts the women's sharp-tongued exchanges. Other than Shelby's fragile health, nothing in these women's lives is portrayed too seriously. Everybody's more or less well off with basically happy marriages. Nobody really dislikes anybody.

The requisite fag joke is a gentle one, about the nephews who have come out of the closet and become sudden experts in track lighting. There's even a black couple who dance at Shelby's wedding. This may be a women's movie, but it isn't a feminist one and certainly not lesbian (though double-dating with Dolly Parton and Daryl Hannah would be my idea of a right good time) but it does have a surprising gay subtext. Close your eyes and you could be in any drag bar in South Georgia—or don't close them. (I

could swear I saw Shelby's wedding dress at a high tea on Fire Island three summers ago.)

Shirley MacLaine, Olympia Dukakis, Dolly Parton and Sally Field trade insults and bon mots like a company of drag queens who have been gathering in the same Friday night bar for fifteen years. Only instead of a bar they meet in Truvy's beauty parlor—the one place where all differences of family, status and income become seemingly unimportant in the shared camaraderie of the wax pot and the blow drier.

Piecing Out Stories

Over glasses of iced tea—"the house wine of the south"—they piece out each other's stories; of how Annelle's husband ran off with everything they owned in the



Trading insults and bon mots: Olympia Dukakis and Shirley MacLaine.

trunk of her car; of how Truvy's husband, Spud (Sam Shepard) never seems to jump her bones anymore since she started paying all the bills; of Claree's new career as a color announcer for the local football games; and Shelby's determination to have a baby even though it might kill her.

The Broadway play didn't even

bother to bring the men on stage and we don't see much more of them here. Of course Tom Skerrit, Sam Shepard and Dylan McDermott do make very pretty scenery—particularly Shepard laying back across Dolly Parton's bed with a beer can on his navel. It's a joke in this beauty parlor saga that looking good appears to be the men's primary function

—grinning big and reassuring the heterosexual audience of just how "normal" all the girls are.

What is real and fascinating about Harling's women is the acid glint in their eyes. It shines through all the treacle and hints that there might be a much more interesting story in them. After all, these women scratch out each other's stories the way children

(Continued on page 32)

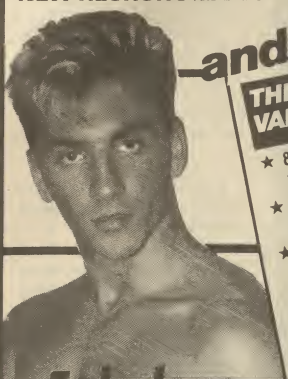
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'The Beat'

The Best of The Best Continued

by David Taylor-Wilson

A couple of issues ago we aired our opinions about *Rolling Stone* magazine's Top 100 albums of the '80s.

Since then we've been getting lots of letters asking what *The Beat* considers the best of the '80s to be. To all of you who wrote, thanks, and stand by, the computers have been working overtime and we expect to run our very own list before the end of the year, along with our year-end chart of the best singles of 1989.

Meanwhile, author and fellow critic **Dave Marsh** has just published *The Heart of Rock & Soul: The 1001 Greatest Singles Ever Made* (New American Library, \$14.95). Marsh has concentrated his research on singles rather than albums because he believes that "singles are the essence of rock 'n' roll. Nobody goes around humming albums."

This is a great compilation. If you're a music buff, you'll be surprised to see where he's ranked a lot of classic singles.

No. 1? **Marvin Gaye's** "I Heard It Through the Grapevine" (which we remind you was actually a remake. "Grapevine" was originally done by **Gladys Knight and the Pips**, whose version also went to No. 1).



The B-52s.

In Other Beats

The **B-52s** achieved their first Top 10 album this week with *Cosmic Thing*. It may very well go straight to No. 1. Likewise in LP chart action, *Wild!* by **Erasure** has become their highest charting and fastest selling album to date.

Bobby Brown is slated to perform a benefit gig for the United Negro College Fund at New York's Madison Square Garden. Scheduled to appear with Brown is **Sheena Easton**. Brown is one of the hottest performers around at the moment, and has just completed filming an episode of NBC TV's sitcom *227* in which he plays himself. And as if that's not enough, just out is his "new" album *Dance... Ya Know It!*, which features the best of Brown in new dance remixes. Also, *His Prerogative*, a collection of seven of Brown's best has just been released on video. So it's a wall-to-wall Brown this week.

Speaking of remixes, **Jody Watley** has released *You Wanna Dance With Me?*, a package of her dance hits. *Video Classics, Volume 1* is her new video

release, a compilation of seven of her best vidclips.

Both Brown and Watley record for MCA Records, and these video releases are meant to trumpet the arrival of the newly formed MCA Music Video group. Also being released this week in conjunction with the newly formed group are videos from MCA acts **The Boys**, **New Edition**, **The Jets** and **Reba McEntire**.

An Eye on the Beat

Our mailbox has been filling up with music videos lately. Here's a look at what's new:

Janet Jackson, Janet Jackson's Rhythm Nation; A&M, 1 hour (approx.), directed by Domic Sena.



One of the most visually stunning music videos ever crafted, it truly is a "telemusical."

Spotlighting the title track, "Rhythm Nation," "Miss You Much," "The Knowledge," and "Black Cat," the video is built around Jackson's goal of bringing home the "social problems we have today—bigotry, illiteracy, drugs, violence, the homeless."

Filmed entirely in black and white, the story involves two young shoeshine boys who share a dream of making it in the music business. But one of the boys decides that running drugs might be a more expedient route to fortune. A tragedy calls this decision into question, and the boy is made to face a critical moment of truth.

The showcase of this video is, of course, Jackson's remarkable dancing, which at no time detracts from the theme of the video. The perfectly synchronized dance sequences set against the rough, industrial background enhance the theme. The final dance sequence ("Rhythm Nation") has to be seen to be believed. Jackson has said that it was her intent to create a dance so technically complex, and so obviously the product of extraordinary skill and hard work, as to inspire anyone who might watch it.

Director Sena says, "Our attitude was 'Let's try so hard to nail this dance—which is something people have never seen before—that people will realize how good you can be at something if you just put the effort into it.'"

Mission Accomplished

Chunky-A, Your Love Makes Me Say Ow!; MCA; (5:10); no credits.

On the "lighter" side of things was **Arsenio Hall's** alter-ego, the 300 lb. rapper **Chunky-A**. The clip opens with **Chunky** backstage at a *Cameo* concert busy stuffing his face full of pastry. When it's discovered that the lead singer has laryngitis, **Chunky** is handed the coveted, trademark *Cameo* jockstrap and substituted in his place.

Either **Chunky** does a great impersonation of *Cameo's* lead-singer or he's lip-synching here. But all that aside, the song "dishes" out a "heaping serving" of funk here. Very "delectable" dance grooves that work very well.

Late-night talk show host, stand-up comedian, movie actor and now a rap artist, **Hall** adds another talent to his resume.

J.T. Taylor, Sister Rosa; MCA; (10:10, 12" video remix); no credits.

Former lead vocalist for **Kool & The Gang** has stepped out on his own with an album entitled *Master of the Game*. The premiere single "Rosa" spotlights his usual, above-average vocal capabilities. The vidclip and style of this dance groove, with its great gospel intonations, conjure up a mental connection with **Madonna's** "Like a Prayer," though Taylor's are quite unique.

A good first step for Taylor. **Belinda Carlisle, "Leave a Light On"**; MCA; (4:15); directed by Peter Care.

With beautiful shots of the Las Vegas desert at sunset, **Carlisle** introduces her new album *Runaway Horses* with "Leave a Light On."

This is standard go-go, pop rock that **Carlisle** is known for. It's not bad, it's just not anything new or ground-breaking. The music in most places is so wall-to-

wall that it practically drowns out her vocals.

DMOB, C'mon & Get My Love; ffr/Polygram; (3:48); directed by Marek Budzynski.

From out of nowhere came this group that in just the past year has racked up a trio of club hits, including "We Call It Aced," "Trance Dance," and the current "It Is Time to Get Funky." Apparently unsatisfied with three hits in one year, **DMOB** returns with "C'mon & Get My Love," and it seems sure they'll finish up 1989 with four as their magic number.

In this latest clip **Dancin' Danny D** plays director and seems to have trouble with the props.

The lead singer for whom there were no credits has a nice, strong voice reminiscent of **Sheena Easton**. Just released is the new **DMOB** album *A Little Bit of This, A Little Bit of That*.

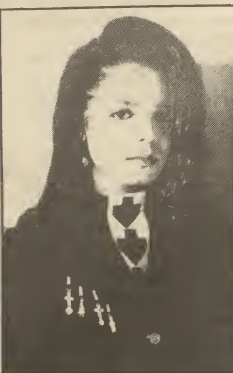
The Tragically Hip, Blow At High Dough; MCA; (4:36); no credits.

The lead single from **Hip's** second LP, "Up To Here," is just our kind of rock 'n' roll. Straightforward, no-nonsense, just-here-to-jam rock. Good vocals and good guitar licks that don't over-hammer the job, as is so frequent with a lot of today's players. Some of the licks reminded us of **U2's** "In The Name of Love."

Visually, the video overlays the group performing against a video backdrop of tons of great vintage clips.

The Rear View

Ten years ago this week **The Commodores** were at no. 1 with "Still." Twenty years ago this week **The Fifth Dimension** held on to the no. 1 position for a second week with "Wedding Bell Blues."



Janet: Working hard.

Acerbity

(Continued from page 31)

pick at scabs and with the same kind of evil joy. "Her whole life has been an experiment in terror," Truzy tells Shelby about a friend of hers, looking over with obvious speculation at the nervous and mysterious Annelle. "There's got to be a story there," she whispers. Truzy kees on talking. Claree teases Ouiser while Annelle clutches her crucifix and M'Lynn argues with Shelby. There's got to be a story here, I told myself setting down over my popcorn. And damn! They all talked so good, I almost didn't notice there wasn't. ▼

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Jeff Jones of Arts Demo Club

Arts Advocate Battles For Gay, Minority Funding

by Michael C. Botkin

Art and politics have long been considered incompatible opposites. But recently the two have started to converge, particularly when "gay" art is concerned, as witnessed by the flap Senator Helms caused with his efforts to restrict funding to "obscene" and homoerotic art. In San Francisco art and politics have combined in a more positive way with the founding of the Arts Democratic Club (ADC) less than a year ago.

"We started the [Arts Democratic] Club out of a sense that we were getting nowhere," said Jeff Jones, who has been an arts funding advocate and consultant for 10 years. "People told us 'artists hate politics—it'll never work.' But 200 people showed up for the first meeting."

Currently, ADC has nearly 500 members. He attributes some of this to the uniquely political art scene found in San Francisco. "The Bay Area is famous for art with political content and socially relevant art," he said.

Questioning Funding Patterns

The problem is getting money for such art, particularly when it's produced by those outside the mainstream, such as gays and lesbians, women, and people of color. Last year Jeff Jones and Russell Cramer published a report titled *Institutionalized Discrimination in San Francisco's Arts Funding Patterns*. The report documented that gay and lesbian artists, and women's art groups, get less than a percentage point each of the city's art funding.

"They try to obscure the issue by throwing in their funding for things like the gay pride parade," Jones said. "But aside from Theatre Rhinoceros and the Band Foundation (e.g. the Lesbian/Gay Chorus), and a few bucks for Frameline, there is very little money for gay art."

"It's the trickle-down theory of the arts," he explained. "The big institutions—the opera, the symphony, the ballet—get the money and the crumbs are passed out to everyone else. The belief is that the money will eventually filter down to individual artists, but it doesn't."

Funding always goes to non-profit corporations, and the non-mainstream artists are rarely organized in this way. "Jon Le Fan (currently vice president of ADC) suggested we needed to look at getting money for individuals as well as for corporations," Jones said. "It was a breakthrough in our way of thinking."

ADC's efforts to organize the arts community has been heavily influenced by the experience of San Francisco's gay community. "Our by-laws are based on those of the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club," said Jones, who noted that five out of 12 members of ADC's executive committee are gay or lesbian.

"We needed to follow a political model instead of just being an advocacy group. Politicians don't see artists as a voting block, and don't understand the arts as an industry."

Gay Art Under Fire

Jones predicted that Helms' crusade against homoerotic art would have a chilling effect on arts funding. "Galleries are going to be reluctant to endorse or display any gay art," he said. "It's a subtle form of intimidation. Note that it was the Corcoran Gallery, and not the government, that closed down the Mapplethorpe exhibit. And it's no accident that the works Helms objected to were by a gay artist [Mapplethorpe] and a Hispanic artist [Serrano]."

At the same time, the public is showing even more interest in exactly the type of art that Helms is trying to suppress. San Francisco's Mexican Museum—headed by Marie Acota-Colon, president

of ADC—is currently displaying Serrano's work to large, enthusiastic crowds. And a recent auction of Mapplethorpe's photographs broke all previous records, bringing in over \$3 million in one day.

Jones feels that gay and lesbian art is part of an emerging culture. "Our community hasn't been out of the closet long enough to fully grasp just what our culture is," he said. "Helms is clamping down on this emerging culture because he can't conceive of genuine art with a gay context." But Jones is confident that the gay community and organizations like ADC will triumph in the long run. ▼



Arts advocate Jeff Jones.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

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Roots of Truman's Genius

A Bridge of Childhood: Truman Capote's Southern Years
by Marianne M. Moates; Henry Holt; \$19.95.

by Marv. Shaw

The notion of the child fathering man has unfortunately become such a cliché that its truth has been diminished. It takes an effort like Marianne Moates' *A Bridge of Childhood: Truman Capote's Southern Years* to remind us of its value. Moates, a free-lance writer for several magazines, spoke with Capote's cousin and contemporary Jennings Faulk Carter, who recounted their shared boyhood and youth in the small Alabama town of Monroeville in the 1930s and early 1940s. The resulting episodic memoir, while resembling Twain in some ways, attains something unique and probably more valuable: the making of a flawed genius.

Capote, whose earliest years were spent in New Orleans, came to Monroeville at age 6, with his mother, Lily Mae, who was running from an unsatisfactory marriage with Truman's father. She soon fled again, to New York, where she married Joe Capote, a wealthy Cuban. For the next dozen years, they kept the boy mostly in private schools here and abroad, but Truman usually spent his long summer vacations in Monroeville. In effect, Lily Mae, a very self-centered woman, deserted him. Though he found some solace with his aunt, Mary Ida, and with Sook, a childlike and reclusive aged relative, his mother's rejection caused permanent and irreparable damage.



Truman's pal Jennings Faulk Carter.

Sook, a boon companion, as were Carter and neighbor Nelle Harper Lee, was transformed into the sweet, slightly dotty old lady in such Capote fiction as "A Christmas Memory." Lee grew up to write *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and Moates makes some interesting observations in a comparison of the two writers' characters and their real life counterparts.

But the most engaging element running through the book is the repeated demonstration of how Truman's imagination developed. A precocious reader, he plunged into books, began writing down his and others' experiences, and fantasized

brilliantly, fascinating his playmates and even the adults.

Most entertaining in *A Bridge of Childhood* are a series of childhood and adolescent adventures that wouldn't have happened except for Truman's daring and inventive imagination. In "The Carnival," he and his pals put together a show of a "prehistoric" fish, a contrived two-headed chicken, an alcoholic banjo player supposedly playing a hula, and other wild improvisations. Most seriously, there was "Hatter's Mill," in which Truman was the main person responsible for resuscitating the drowned black youth Edison.

Truman's gayness barely figures. In "Epilogue" we learn that as a famous young man he brought a male lover to Monroeville and got a hysterically hostile reaction from Mary Ida. But while other accounts of Capote's life report a legion of sexual conquests in the boarding schools, such occurrences are either fastidiously avoided by Carter and Moates or, perhaps, they never happened in constricted Monroeville.

But the omission isn't particularly relevant here. What really counts is the additional insight into the circumstances that helped Capote nurture his great talent, a talent that yielded some splendid writing, wealth, fame and, finally, despair. ▼



Truman

Purdy

(Continued from page 25)

his feet. Calloused though they were, she found them with their high arches and active digits beyond any beauty she has anticipated, and she was busy kissing each of his toes, pausing a long time over his big toe, which she gradually took completely into her mouth.

Occasionally, she would come up like a diver from deep water, and say, "I deserve you, Des, for all I've gone through."

Whew! Purdy's eroticism knows no limits, and his extravagant smiles and crushes put those of wanna-bes like that darn Anne Rice to shame. Simultaneously with the erotic component of *Garments*, the religious and spiritual aspects of Purdy's thought are given a new twist by the appearance of AIDS and its position in the novel.

If AIDS and the HIV virus are mutations of a vengeful Nature, then we live in a terrifying world, but if the virus is a manmade culture designed by the political "crooks" who run our every program, then our world is much more terrifying than even the author of "Revelations" could have imagined. Purdy confronts these possibilities head on, with an angry face. In the light of such possibility, human love and passion burn brighter today than in any other epoch of history.

I take it that the "garments" of the title are the lesions and sores of the PWA. Jonas Hakluyt, the charismatic Jim Morrison-like preacher, is discovered to have AIDS, and on his beautiful body the characteristic lesions bloom like "purple scourges," with mouths that speak in hallucinatory intensity. To his legions of young followers, his ministry of love, death and redemption is the "supreme experience, in many ways, the consumption, the unforgettable, the experience in which they reached their highest selves." ▼

In many ways this man's suffering and passions are those of Jesus Christ. In *Garments* the dread "bodily fluids" are shown, from page to page, as analogues for the signs of Christ's suffering and death: it is no accident these wet signs are known as Christ's "passion." In one extraordinary scene the elderly millionaire stops his horse-drawn carriage in Central Park and hails the sweaty young jogger Jared Wakeman to his side.

"Have a swig," Mr. Hennings produced a bottle of his favorite beverage, Vichy Celestin.

Without a word more, Jared Wakeman drained the entire bottle at almost one swallow.

Then Mr. Hennings, like an actor or perhaps an acrobat in one of Jared's own melodramas, bent low and put his lips on the pearls of sweat on the Thespian's marble-colored chest.

Despite his long career as an actor and confidence man in general, Wakeman was considerably taken back at what he would later call "this outrageous public gesture." Recovering from his amazement, Jared got out: "I am beginning to see, sir, why you have been driven out of every country on the globe!"

Refreshed from his drink off Jared Wakeman's solar plexus, Mr. Hennings spoke gravely and matter-of-factly: "The wonderful thing about your perspiration, dear Jared, is it is very lacking in strong saline properties. In fact, did I not know I was drinking from your breast-bone, I would say I was quaffing some of my own Vichy water."

After "some hesitation," Jared kisses the old man's hand and says, "You can have another drink any time I am in a lather, Mr. Hennings."

Bitingly Mordant

The surrealistic generosity and abandon of these characters give the book a heightened, almost "cartoony" glow of unreality. At the same time the social satire is bitingly mordant. If you've read Tom Wolfe's recent book *The Bonfire of the Vanities* you will have read a kinder, gentler sitcom version of Purdy's hatred for the follies and the cruelties of the uncaring rich. Unlike Wolfe, however, Purdy sticks his neck out in a big way.

Garments the Living Wear contains an unqualified endorsement of the policies and actions of such radical groups as ACT UP, Gran Fury, etc., and one of the big set pieces of the book is a fiery Manhattan ACT UP rally, lit by flaming torches, at which Edward Hennings stirs the crowd with his castigation of homophobic, corrupt society.

"We, of all people, cannot now be dismayed for long by the virus of pest or plague. We have too intimately known the virus of the power of state and church, directed against us and aided by the venal and coprophagous press and the hoi polloi of the mob!"

You can see why this book won't match *Bonfire's* sales figures, not in one million and one years, and why Brian de Palma won't be making the movie of this book, great as it is. It's like *Breakfast at Tiffany's* written by William S. Burroughs. Well, actually it's *sui generis* and I shouldn't make these meaningless comparisons, they insult the intelligence. A book like *Garments the Living Wear* is like no other reading experience available today. Buy it at once! ▼

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The Paw-fect Mystery

Sue Slate, Private Eye
by Lee Lynch; Naiad Press; 161 pp.; \$8.95.

by Noreen C. Barnes

I'm allergic to cats. I guess they're nice enough, but I admit I can never be around them long enough to really appreciate them. That was part of my initial resistance when beginning to read Lee Lynch's *Sue Slate, Private Eye*, but it quickly broke down when I realized that there was much more than a clever conceit to this tale of a lesbian cat's unraveling of a mystery and a "kit-napping."

For Sue Slate is no ordinary feline. She is a self-acknowledged "fuppy"—feline urban professional, who has a taste for "rare cheeses, salmon out of season," and has taken up the private eye business after learning "the art of detection" by reading Georges Simenon and Raymond Chandler novels over the shoulder of her "People," who is a "compulsive mystery reader."

This cat's eye view of San Francisco, modeled along the lines of the classic hard-boiled detective stories, is full of delightful observations about the "Peoples" who own an array of cats (or is it the other way around?):

At my window, I see my People, Levis, preening. I know his name is Levis because he always wears a tag to this effect on the back of his jeans. He is gray-haired with a shaggy moustache and talks as fast as a hummingbird bats her wings. In order to earn catfood he teaches something called chem mystery.

Through the bedroom window I espy Darlin', Levis's long time squeeze. He is a small, soft-voiced People, with skin not quite as black as Hot Paw's tux. He does

not wear a name tag, but Levis always calls him Darlin'. Once he is a mater dee at a fancy cook shack, but he has something akin to the Feline Leukemia Virus which rips through Peacock Alley now and then, felling many of our dear ones.

The feline characters, as well, range from the beautiful torch singer, Tallulah Mimosa, who comes to Sue Slate to solve the case of the missing kittens, to the rakish, rhinestone-collared Rex Boudoir, Sue's three-legged brother, Dumpster, and the shady Bad Tuna Cat.

Sue sleuths her way through the alleys of the Mission, the God Is Not Dead church, an AIDS "clinic" and computers with a species of "mouse" that she has never before seen.

Lynch's handling of this tale is clever, full of sharp social commentary (as the feline world parallels that of the Peoples in virtually every way, except for a few important differences that demonstrate the animals' superiority, by a whisker), and is, at points, extremely moving. Through her marvelous imagination we enter the mind and world of one of these fascinating creatures, and learn that a pussy's perspective is often better than the human one.

You don't have to be a "cat person" to enjoy *Sue Slate*. Lynch, the popular author of *Old Dyke Tales*, *The Amazon Trail* and *Dusty's Queen of Hearts Diner*, among others, has created another fine work, yet her effort does not end with this cat's tale. A part of the royalties from the book will go to the Humane Society, and to Oregon's The Ruby House Foundation, which cares for people with HIV disease. May she be blessed with nine lives. ▼



Cover art for Sue Slate, Private Eye.

(Drawing by Pat Tong)

Village People of the '30s

The Young and Evil

by Charles Henri Ford and Parker Tyler, with illustrations by Pavel Tchelitchev; Gay Presses of New York; \$11.95.

by Marv. Shaw

The Young and Evil, a collaborative novel written in the 1930s, is a highly autobiographical account of the scrambling, heedless lives of two young gay men in Depression-era Greenwich Village. A product of America's early 20th century avant garde, the novel, originally published by the daring Obelisk Press of Paris, joins the growing number of recovered gay works from the past.

Julian and Karel, the rebellious protagonists of *The Young and Evil*, ricochet about the speakeasies, rented rooms, impromptu parties and artsy-leftist meetings of the Village, in-

termittently devoted to each other, but also much inclined to take on others.

A repetitive and rambling tour of the Bohemian milieu takes up most of the first two-thirds of this determinedly experimental work. The drama heightens in the book's latter third, which includes a tremendous drag ball in Harlem and a homophobic attack on Riverside Drive.

The Young and Evil disdains almost all prose conventions, from customary syntax to quotation marks. Sometimes the effect is arresting: "Karel hesitated, then bloomed from the bed like a white four-o'clock." At other

times the prose seems confusingly mangled.

Of course the style is much less concerned with objective representation than it is with showing frequently disordered states of mind. In that respect, it resembles the punkish *Zombie Pit*, giving *The Young and Evil* strong current interest.

But perhaps greater value comes from knowing that 36 years before Stonewall there were two gay men with the guts to put their real selves into print. The six pictures by the gay Russian emigrant painter Pavel Tchelitchev are a great bonus. ▼

Black Poetry Journal Seeks Submissions

Blk Publishing Company has announced plans to publish a quarterly poetry journal to be called *Kuumba*. This new project of the Los Angeles-based company calls for an initial release in the first quarter of 1980. *Kuumba* is dedicated to the celebration of the lives and experiences of black gay men and lesbians.

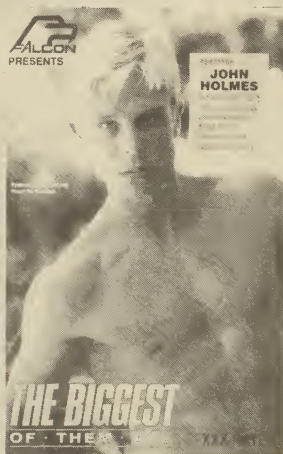
Kuumba is a Swahili word meaning "creativity" and is one of the Nguzo Saba (Seven Principles) which govern African communities. Ayofemi Stowe Folan, a poet, playwright, journalist and short fiction writer, is co-editor of the new publication along with artists, activist and author Mark Haile.

Submissions of poetry on all subjects reflecting the experiences of black gay men and lesbians are being sought. Among the experiences of interest are: coming out, interactions with family, interactions with communities, substance abuse, the arts, political activism, oral histories, AIDS, and intimate relationships. Preference is given to previously unpublished authors. All submissions should be accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

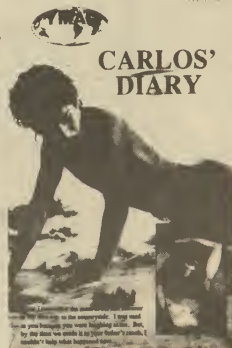
Submissions for the inaugural edition of *Kuumba* should be addressed to: Editors, *Kuumba*, Box 83912, Los Angeles, CA 90083-0912. For further information, call (213) 410-0808. ▼

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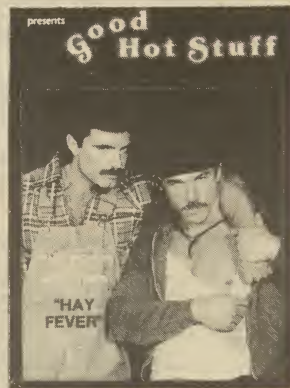
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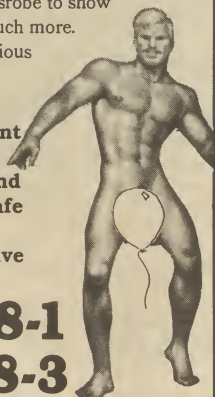
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Mr. Marcus



The 23-year-old George Hollcroft (center) is Mr. Leather Sacramento.

(Photo: Marcus)

Sacramento's First Mr. Leather: George Hollcraft

Close to 500 men and women jammed into Joseph's Town & Country Bar in Sacramento last Saturday night, Nov. 18, to witness the selection of that city's first leather community-sanctioned male leather title, Mr. Leather Sacramento.

There were four contestants vying for the title and the judges (Alan Selby, Steve Patten, Mike Pereyra, Steve Lesh and Ms. Kim Wallace) had their hands full with the contestants that more than once made inspiring statements regarding their qualifications, their understanding of the leather scene and their aspirations with the title.

Leather Daddy Jason Ladd did a fine job MC'ing the event and had the crowd in stitches with his ad-libbing and comments. Be-

tween the three appearances by the contestants there was entertainment and fantasies were performed. The current Ms. Leather of Sacramento Jolanne Tierney appeared twice with bouncy renditions and gyrations that brought a positive response from the crowd. Ms. Gay Northern California Helena Holliday also appeared twice with her own voice vocals that were also well-received by the enthusiastic crowd. Mr. Fresno Leather Ric Lewis performed a fantasy with a leather-clad group that incorporated some fascinating pyro-technics that had the crowd gasping. Later, John Ferrari and "Puppy" displayed a flawlessly executed rope fantasy and there was also a S&M rack fantasy presented. Lots of leather was in attendance and the crowd was generous with applause for everyone's efforts.

When all was said and done the 2nd runner-up was Mike Deeley, the 1st runner-up was Phil Waggoner and the winner: 23-year-old George Hollcraft, a Sacramento resident and a former Mr. Northern California Drummer contestant. In his qualifications statement, George said he felt the title would give him the ability to raise money for the causes of the gay community and serve as a figurehead for the Sacramento Leather Association, the producers of the event. Already an activist in many Sacramento projects, George pledged to make community involvement and work a major part of his life not only in Sacramento but in other communities. The contest was a very positive and inspiring manifestation of Sacramento's leather community. And with all due respect to



Leather buns at the Mr. Leather Sacramento contest last Saturday night.

(Photo: Marcus)



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everyone else's efforts in Sacramento, it's practically a foregone conclusion that the SLA will, like its many counterparts all around the country, take a commanding lead in community fundraising efforts and present a positive image of understanding and acceptance of not only leather, but the men and women who are into leather as opposed to just being in leather. A lot of people need to be thanked for their involvement in Sacramento's first big leather effort and they know who they are, but co-chair of SLA Earl Grist deserves a special mention because of his dedication and inspiration to make it a successful event. He went above and beyond all expectations and for that, Sacramento and especially Sacramento's leather community should be rightfully proud! Thanks, Earl.

★ ★ ★

Aside from the '49ers losing a real heartbreaker this past Sunday to the Green Bay Packers, life around the campus was full of fun things. Thursday, a lot of people converged in the Neiman-Marcus rotunda for the Shanti Project's kick-off party. Lots of nice people and well-wishers were on hand for a very stylish gathering.

Saturday afternoon, the PWA/PWARC Christmas Eve Dinner committee had a pre-Thanksgiving beer bust at the SF Eagle. Apparently my plug for this event in last week's edition of *B.A.R.* wasn't clear to everyone exactly what date it was. As a result I've been severely criticized and viciously blamed for what was apparently a low turnout. I need not apologize, I think. I just

didn't like the way one of the committee members read my beads about it. If it wasn't clear, I apologize; but when the three preceding paragraphs all had to deal with functions on Saturday, it is in my opinion reasonable to assume that Saturday was the day. The world didn't end and I'm sure the Christmas Eve dinner will be a success. It's always those who finally got off their dead asses to do something of value for their brothers and sisters that blab the loudest. I'll match my volunteering, fundraising and dedication to the community with whoever wants to compare notes!

★ ★ ★

Tomorrow's Thanksgiving and hopefully you all have a place to celebrate this traditional holiday. In spite of the crises facing our community, and in spite of the setbacks we've endured, we still have a hell of a lot to be thankful for living in San Francisco. It may not be heaven on earth, but it's the closest thing you'll ever find to heaven in your gay life. As for the finger-pointing, blame and criticism toward you by radical upstarts in our midst, just remember, you have more intelligence than a lot of our so-called "leaders" give you credit for. They probably don't realize we're more intelligent than to barter a worthless document in City Hall for a baseball stadium. When the so-called rest of the "gay communities" look at us and perhaps deride our voter turnout that didn't materialize they'll one day realize that the entire San Francisco gay and lesbian community is not enamored of our gay political leaders who more often than not are in it only for a job, a title and their own personal aggrandizement. Those



Philip Waggoner was 1st runner-up.

(Photo: Marcus)

radicals who are destroying the years of work done by the front runners of yesteryear should devote their energy to getting people to register and to vote instead of embarrassing San Francisco.

Dish With Dash

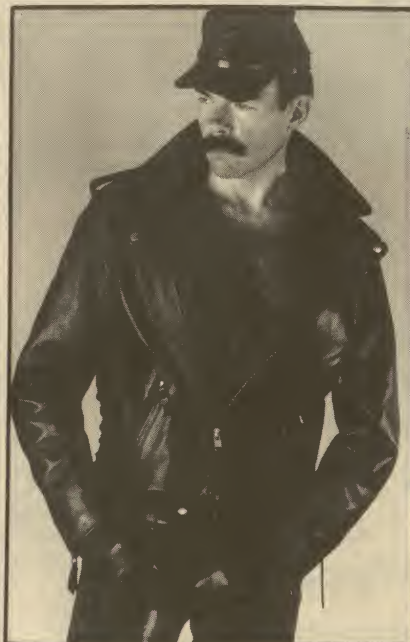
The title of Mr. Leather of San Francisco has been sold to Emperor Jerry

Colletti by Up Your Alley Productions so they could "get out of debt." I'll bet Patrick Toner will be thrilled to learn that the legacy he left with his trusted "friends" no longer belongs to the leather community. At my deadline, I hadn't yet heard the asking price for the Ringold or Dore Alley Fairs.

And speaking of unaccounted monies, they're having fundrais-

(Continued next page)

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John "Spider" Ferrari demonstrated a flawless rope-tying fantasy for the crowd.

(Photo: Marcus)

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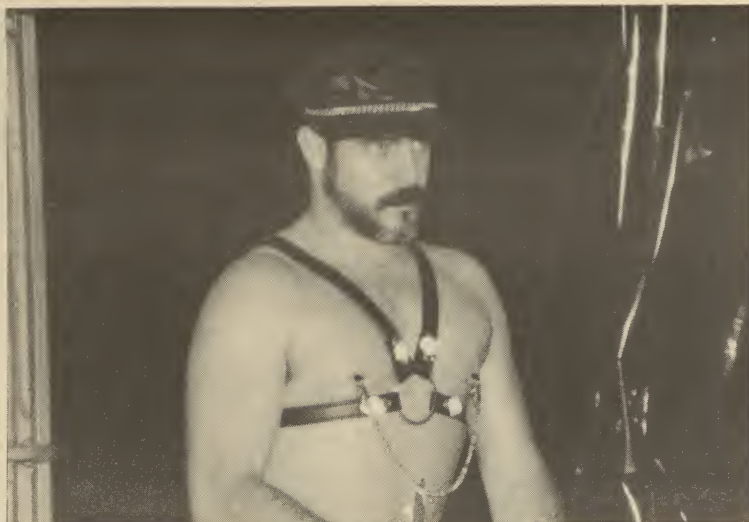


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Mr. Fresno Leather Ric Lewis helped the Sacramento Leather Assn. (SLA) produce the contest. (Photo: Marcus)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

ers all over the country (Phoenix, San Diego, Portland, Seattle, Los Angeles and New York to name only a few) for—and get this—"the many leather men and women in San Francisco who are suffering as a result of the earthquake damage!!" I was even told that Sky Renfro and Shadow Morton had lost their home completely when, in fact, they only lost a few dishes and glasses! Who's getting this money? Is there a leather earthquake committee here getting any of the proceeds from these fundraisers? And how many leather men or women do you know that have lost their homes, their lovers, their precious possessions and how can we reach them to get these "funds"? Questions without answers. Just who's getting the money? Let me know if you hear.

Great news! Juan Castaneda, who helped put the Casa de Cristal on the map (remember at the rear of the P.S.?) is back in town and at the Border Cafe (8th and Folsom). Juan is one of the foremost purveyors of delicate Mexican seafood dishes and is packing 'em in at that quaint

place. With Marcus the bartender pushing the flawless margaritas, it's a delightful place to savor your favorite Latin dishes. While you're there, try out that new (but classic already) rage, the Sombre y Sol (Sun and Shade)—you may or may not want to have one again and again!

Hamburger Mary's has been closed for a few days while they spiff up the place. Dale and Rose, as always, are being innovative and clever. By the time this edition of B.A.R. hits the cigarette machines, Mary's will be open again and they're introducing the area to nine new beers, on draft! Check this one out too.

Hey, December 1 is World AIDS Day. Kenneth Cole (2078 Union St.) is donating 40 percent of the proceeds of every pair of shoes they sell on that day to AmFAR (American Foundation for AIDS Research). If you want to be well-heeled and do a good turn for AIDS, get over there and buy some snazzy leather shoes!

Saturday, Dec. 2: Tatiana's gang at Kimo's at 2200 and 2400 to benefit Project Open Hand. Sunday Dec. 3: Beer bust is for Shanti—Gail Wilson in person from 1500-1800 and it will cost either \$7 or \$8—Mr. Reedy never

got back to me. Same day (Sunday, Dec. 3): AIDS Dance-A-Thon from 1400-1900 at the I-Beam, Kennel Club, Box and Club Townsend. For more info call 863-4676 or 777-2273. Oh yes, lest anyone be confused the Shanti beer bust on Sunday is at the Eagle (where else?). Nov. 27, Monday, the SF Jacks have Left Over Night (left over loads) at the usual time, the usual place, the usual fee. The Bare Chest Calendar is on sale all over town; men on the calendar are actually going out and pushing it heavy, so buy yours. If you can't find one of the hunks selling it, you can get it at Mercury Mail Order (18th Street near Castro) or at, of course, the Eagle.



Don't eat too much tomorrow. Keep doing your best, keep giving generously and keeping loving your brothers and sisters—just do it in leather! ▼

NEA

(Continued from page 26)

Others were less pleased. The Times reported that PEN, the writers group, condemned the move "in the strongest terms." Representative Sidney Yates, who led opposition to the Helms law, said he was disturbed by Frohnmayer's objection to political art. "I'm not sure what that means," he said. "In itself, political statements are not a barrier to grants." Constitutional lawyer Floyd Abrams said "To withdraw funding of artistic works because the catalogue for those works criticizes public officials... is an appalling surrender of First Amendment principles."

The next week, composer Leonard Bernstein declined to accept a National Medal of Arts, reportedly in protest over the NEA's rescission of the Artists Space grant.

The size and strength of the reaction apparently surprised Frohnmayer, who soon opened a dialogue with the show's directors. He debated Wyatt on the McNeil/Lehrer News Hour and agreed to preview the show, which he did while 700 protesters chanted outside. ▼



Weslia Whitfield

Weslia Whitfield To Sing at Benefit

Old First Concerts will present jazz/pop/cabaret vocalist Weslia Whitfield in concert for the fifth consecutive year on Friday, Dec. 1 at 8 p.m. The concert, whose proceeds will benefit the Old First Concerts series, will be held in San Francisco's historic Old First Church, Van Ness and Sacramento.

Weslia Whitfield is a five-time winner of the San Francisco Council on Entertainment Cabaret Gold Award for "Outstanding Jazz Vocalist." Well-known as an interpreter of the "Great American Popular Song," Ms.

Whitfield is joined by her husband/pianist/arranger Michael Greensill. Mr. Greensill has received the San Francisco Council on Entertainment Gold Award for "Outstanding Jazz Instrumentalist" 1987 and 1988 and has been working with Whitfield since 1981.

Old First Concerts, a non-profit concert series, has been introducing artists to the Bay Area for 10 years. Admission to the Dec. 1 benefit is \$25 which includes a reception after the concert. Tickets may be purchased at the STBS booth on Union Square or from Old First Concerts, 1751 Sacramento, 94109. For more information call 474-1608. ▼

Sagittarian Celebrations

Boy, do we have a lot of birthdays coming up in the next two weeks. First Wayne Friday, the wonderful political columnist of this paper, has his on Nov. 26 and then Andy Rodriguez has his Nov. 30, followed by Sweet Lips, Dec. 1. I am having a gala party at the Yacht Club that day from 4 until 8 p.m. with that wonderful Greta Grass as hostess. Sunday, Dec. 3 is Gary from the White Swallow's birthday, and also that wonderful softball player, Cha Cha, who now lives in Houston has one the same day. And of course the great Tony Mendoza of Portland is having his Dec. 11. Lots of celebrating to do, and don't forget the one and only Lenny Mollet will be 70 years young Dec. 4 and is celebrating with a big bash from 7 p.m. on at the very popular Chez Mollet.

The Cinch on Polk Street has progressive rock music every Thursday at 9 p.m. with \$1 draft beer. And don't forget that the Cinch has Larry (formerly of Polk Rendezvous) on the plank from 6 a.m. until noon Thursday thru Monday, so drop by for a libation with him.

The Most Holy Redeemer support group is having their fifth annual Christmas Wreaths presentation. They do wreaths and gifts to the less fortunate. For more info contact Thomas M. McCormick, Christmas Wreath Project '89 at 641-7507. This is a very dedicated group of people who do need some help.

It seems as we again have to put up with Paul Ruehl as he is back from visiting his "Mom" in the East Coast and he is just as bitchy as ever. So be sure to drop in at Gilmore's for a drink or two.

The fabulous George Buchanan is opening at Harrah's Lounge in Reno next month and is interested in doing a few benefit shows here for any worthwhile causes. Nice gesture. If you want his number it is 843-2293.

Ginger's Too at 43 Sixth St. is having the traditional roast turkey dinner or baked Virginia reel ham dinner with all the trimmings for only \$12.50 from 3 p.m. until 8 p.m. with 99 cent well drinks. How can you go wrong on that? Make your reservations early at 543-3622.

"Men Behind Bars," the bartender's folly, takes place on Feb. 16 through 19. For more information, call 552-3656. It will be held this year at the Palace of Fine Arts Theatre.

Most of Portland, Oregon have been participating in a two week San Francisco Earthquake Relief Fund benefit that started on Nov. 10 and ends on the 26th. Proceeds will go to the East Bay Shanti House, which was damaged and to the San Francisco leather community. More on this in the next column, in the meantime kudos to all of the Portland people.

Remember that Tony Lasagna and yours truly are hosting, with Jackie of course, a great big Thanksgiving dinner from 3 p.m. on at the Yacht Club, 2155 Polk St., with turkey and all of the trimmings. We'll be looking forward to your joining us. It seems as if my good friend Mr. Steve Suss of the Embers/Avenue is coming down for a four-day weekend on the first of December to help me celebrate. Looking forward to it, Steve.

A fantastic "Boy's Night Out" at Kimo's last Wednesday. You



Tzarina Greta Grass and Kokpit owner Ken Allison.

raised a lot of funds during the eighteen, you did. Thanks. Hadn't seen so much royalty at one function in a long time and we loved it, didn't we, meaning the three reigning Tzarinas... Greta Grass, Luscious Lorelei and yours truly. But then Gladys Bumps was in Hawaii and Michelle was in New York.

to miss the grand entrance of the Messiah this Sat., Nov. 25, 8 p.m., at the Polk Culch Saloon. DeJohn and Ronnie Lynn are in cahoots and are making a movie. Lights! Camera! Action! The messiah and entourage are making their rise through the gay community.

Have a very pleasant and enjoyable Thanksgiving Day... and be "Thankful!" ▼

Slipping

(Continued from page 29)

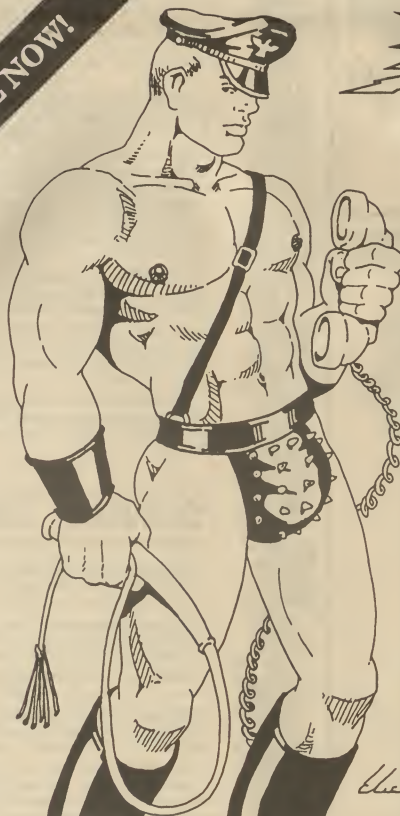
Works does, Nightletter Theater paints with a brush of visual projection, all seamlessly applied to execute a house, a door, a sepia-toned forest, a deserted men's bathroom. However, while Coates' projections are usually the backdrop for his actors, Nightletter gives equal billing to their performance on celluloid. It is a movie which opens *Puddle Travelers*: the three actors (Arthur Carson, Cynthia Moore, and Rip Light), boarding three muddy puddles like passengers on a train and being whisked into a realm of memories they may have never had. The actors "step" in and out of the dimensions as if across thresholds. We have been invited to a kingdom of dreams where men are changed into dogs, rocks speak like frogs, and huge disembodied hands and lips interact like a Salvador Dali painting brought to life. Also like the work of George Coates, Nightletter Theater is best appreciated if early on you cease attempts at standard linear understanding.

The imagery which dances eloquently through *Puddle Travelers* is beautiful, often funny, and brow-wrinklingly puzzling. It's not mindlessly pretty like Coates's work sometimes is, but neither is it particularly audience-friendly. Nightletter Theater, a talented and original group of Bay Area artists exist "to create sculpture performances that play the mind like a musical instrument," as written in their statement of philosophy. In that, *Puddle Travelers* achieves a modicum of success. However, their further goal of "creating a sensory language proper to the theater" is less exact. Intriguing though it is, *Puddle Travelers* is more a gallery show than anything riveting enough to be considered coherently theatrical or dramatic. ▼

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347 Oak St., San Francisco, CA 94102
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Deadline for Submission of Applications is November 3, 1989

FRIDAY 24

- **El Rio:** Enjoy oysters on the half shell, happy hour 5-7 p.m. DJs Cory Iwatsu & Carlos Grant. No cover. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. 3158 Mission. 282-3325.
- **I-Beam:** Modern Rock dancing Fri., 9 p.m.-2 a.m. \$5, free w/pass. 1748 Haight. 668-6023.
- **Pride & Joy:** Dance to sweet 60's soul Nov. 24 & 25. \$10. 9:30 p.m. Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell. Call 885-0750 or 762-BASS.
- **The Quan Yin Herbal Program:** Using Chinese herbs to treat AIDS/ARC & HIV+ asymptomatic persons. 12-week cycle begins Thu., Nov. 30. Enrollment deadline is today. \$190. Call 861-4963.
- **Siddha Meditation Thanksgiving Intensive:** A Supreme Power lives within each of us. Nov. 24-26. 1107 Stanford/San Pablo, Oakland. Advanced registration required. Call 655-8677.
- **Gay Men's Group Oil Massage:** Arrive by 7:30 p.m. at 552-B Castro. \$10. Call Bruce, 626-2026.
- **Living Well With AIDS/ARC:** Support group based on Attitudinal Healing Principles. 1-3 p.m. & 7-9 p.m. Rest Stop, 134 Church. Call 621-REST.
- **Social Gathering:** for the supporters of Kairos House, 114 Douglass, 5-7 p.m. Information: 861-0877.

SATURDAY 25

- **I Beam:** High Energy & House Music Saturdays. \$5, free w/pass. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Tea Dance Sundays, \$5, free 5-9 p.m. w/pass. 1748 Haight, SF. 668-6023.
- **CREW:** gay house music club. Every Saturday, 9:30 p.m.-afterhours, 21+. \$8. 520 4th St./Bryant. Call: 978-CREW.
- **Mystique:** dance to the rapture of over 400 women at Scooters, 22 4th St. 227-0135.
- **El Rio:** Mud Puppies, Pop A Wheelie, Keith Karloff. 10 p.m. \$5. 3158 Mission. 282-3325.
- **Native American Art & Culture:** Potter Kathy Sanchez will demonstrate Tewa Pueblo techniques. Nov. 25 at 1 p.m. Nov. 26 at 2:15 p.m. California Academy of Sciences, Music Concourse, GG Park. Call 750-7145.
- **Amy Kandall, Recent Oil Paintings:** Thru Dec. 3. Reception tonight 8:30-10:30 p.m. Art Lick Gallery, 4147 19th St./Collingwood. 621-5131. Wed.-Sun., Noon-7 p.m.
- **Acadia Bodybuilding Society Garage Sale:** In the Church Street Station parking lot, Church & Market at 9 a.m. Come early, help send athletes to Gay Games III.
- **Girth & Mirth Club SF:** Annual Holiday Dinner Party. 8 p.m. The club will supply food, dancing, 50/50 raffle, party games. \$5-7. 176 Page, SF. Call 820-2597.
- **Women's Clinic:** Call at 8:30 a.m. for same day appointment. Pap smears, STD, bladder and pregnancy testing. Healthcare by and for women. Berkeley Free Clinic, 548-2570.
- **SF Wrestling Club:** Workouts every other Saturday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. All forms, styles of wrestling; all ages, weights, levels welcome. Call 538-8490 or 821-9721.
- **Art Class:** Exploring AIDS/ARC issues through creativity. FREE. Noon-4 p.m. Game Night, social mixer for PWAs/PWARCs/PWHIVs, 7-11 p.m. Rest Stop, 134 Church. 621-REST.
- **Reiki Treatments:** A clothes-on physical work which touches the body and nurtures the being. For persons with AIDS/ARC/HIV+. FREE. For appointment call 621-REST.

SUNDAY 26

- **The Medieval Troubadour Music of Gai Saber:** Music from the 13th & 14th centuries. 4 p.m. \$5-8. Old First Church, Van Ness & Sacramento. Call 474-1608.
- **City Folk & Peter Lamson:** Styles ranging from Crosby, Stills & Nash to the blues. \$4-7. 7:30 p.m. Plowshares, Ft. Mason Cntr Bldg F, Marina & Laguna. Call 441-8910.
- **A Different Light:** Gay Writer Series features Thom Gunn & Jack Collins. 7 p.m. 489 Castro.
- **Paintings by Angelo Sottosanti & Jean Dierkes Carlisle:** Thru Dec. 12. New College, 777 Valencia. Reception Nov. 19, 3-6 p.m. Clarion Cafe, Mission & 17th.
- **Here's To My Ladies:** Douglas Wright sings the songs of Garland, Piaf, Brice, Streisand, Merman, Holiday, etc. Thru Dec. 3. Sundays, 7 p.m. \$15. Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason/Post. Reservations: 777-6900.
- **El Rio:** Samba Pagode. \$7. 4-8 p.m. 3158 Mission. 282-3325.
- **Women's Social For Older Lesbians 60+:** Join us for music, dancing, games, refreshments. 2-5 p.m. St. Francis of Assisi, 145 Guerrero, SF. FREE. Call 626-7000.
- **AIDS Interfaith of Marin:** Monthly interfaith service. 4 p.m. Fairfax Community Church, 2398 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., Fairfax, Marin County. Call 457-1129.



• **House of Blue Leaves:** By John Guare recounts the bizarre events of one day in the life of Artie Shaughnessy, a frustrated song writer/zoo keeper searching for his big break. Thru Dec. 23. Thu.-Sun., 8 p.m. \$10. Phoenix Theatre, 301 8th St., SF. Call 391-8778 or STBS.

- **Religious Science of SF:** "Spiritual Breakthroughs," de-crystallizing collective consciousness to humanity to let your reality emerge. 10:30 a.m. 25 Van Ness & Market. Call 641-1702.
- **Afternoon Tea:** Come play games & socialize. For PWAs/PWARC/PWHIVs. 2-7 p.m. FREE. Rest Stop, 134 Church. 621-REST.
- **Gay Volleyball:** Every Sun., 11 a.m.-3 p.m., in the school yard at 17th & Deharo. All welcome, even beginners. Call Jay at 864-0257.
- **Tsunami Gay/Lesbian Swim Team:** Practices MWF, 6-7:30 p.m. SF Park & Rec's Coffman Pool. Sundays at King's Pool, 10 a.m.-noon. Call Crystal Brunzell at 285-8496.
- **SF Hotshots Men's Gay Basketball Team:** Collingwood gym, 18th St. & Collingwood. 6-8 p.m. All levels welcome. Showers available. Tony Jasinski, 621-2710.
- **Men's Clinic:** free/confidential VD testing and treatment for gonorrhea, syphilis, NGU, scabies, lice, venereal warts, etc. AIDS/ARC counseling and referrals. Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave., 6-8 p.m. Call 644-0425.

MONDAY 27

- **I-Beam:** The Buzzcocks, Grapes of Wrath. \$17 adv. 10:30 p.m. 1748 Haight. Call 668-6023.
- **Bay Area Theatresports:** A combination Rookie and Varsity Match blending the new talent with the veterans. \$6. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St. Reserv. 824-8220.
- **Deaf Lesbians, New Organization Forming:** We need you! Open to all who speak or are seriously motivated to learn our language (ASL). Call 444-0458 TDD, relay 1-800-342-5833.
- **Men With Sexual Compulsive Behavior:** Weekly group lasting nine months. Mondays, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Operation Concern, 1853 Market, SF. Call 626-7000.
- **Picket For Earthquake Relief Justice:** City Hall, Polk St. entrance. 12:30-2 p.m. Contact All-Peoples Congress, 2489 Mission, Rm. 28. 94110. Call 821-6545.
- **Bi Friendly South Bay:** Palo Alto location. 7 p.m. FREE. Steve, (415) 968-5902, or Kristine, (408) 267-5551.
- **Support Group For Older Gay Men (60+):** 7-9 p.m. Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., SF. Call 626-7000.
- **Springboard Diving Class & Training:** beginner thru advanced. Info/reg.: Bob Murphy, 552-0820, or Leslie King, 666-6820. Mon & Wed, 7 p.m.; Tues & Thu, 3:30 p.m.
- **Co-Dependent No More Support Group:** facilitated by Bob Pettyman. 7-8:30 p.m. Kairos House, 114 Douglass St.
- **Hayward & Tri-City HIV+ Support Group:** for PWAs/PWARCS and their loved ones. Every Monday, 10-11:30 a.m. or 7-8:30 p.m.; Thursdays, 2:30-4 p.m. Call: 887-0566.
- **HIV+ Spiritual Support Group:** weekly, SF MCC, 150 Eureka. Call: 863-4434.
- **Emergence/San Francisco:** Gay Christian Scientist group meets at 7:30 p.m. Call: 221-HOME.

WEEK



• **Lucie Blue Tremblay:** Celebrating her new Olivia Records release *Tendresse*. \$10, 8 p.m. at The Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell. Call 885-0750 or BASS.

TUESDAY 28

- **Art From The Tenderloin:** Presented by Hospitality House. Thru Dec. 28. Reception tonight 5:30-7:30 p.m. American Zephyr Gallery, 25 Van Ness. Mon.-Sun., 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sun., 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
- **Artists' Television Access:** "Homeless But Not Helpless," a documentary by Lynne Elman. 7 p.m. \$10. 992 Valencia. 824-3890.
- **Training the Virgin:** Tuesdays thru Nov. 28. 8:30 p.m. A performance by ReptileMoon Theatre. \$4. Wheelchair access. 1800 sq. ft., 719 Clementina/9th St. Info or reservations, 255-8510.
- **Ballroom/Latin Dancing For Gays/Lesbians:** Cha-Chal \$7/class, \$12.50/both. Beginners 7-8 p.m., Intermediate 8-9 p.m. 50 Oak/Van Ness, 4th floor. 995-4962.
- **Gay Men's Sketch:** 1229 Folsom. Classical nude modeling by a surprise guest. 2 min. gestures to 4 min. pose. 7-10 p.m. \$10. Call 621-6294 for reservation/info.
- **Radical Women:** Discussion of Kumari Jayawardena's *Feminism and Nationalism in the Third World*. Dinner 6:45 p.m., meeting at 7:30 p.m. 523-A Valencia St. Call 864-1278.
- **Amron Metaphysical Center:** "Hypnosis: What It Is and What It Isn't," with Jonathan. 2254 Van Ness. FREE. 775-0227.
- **Shanti Board Meeting of Directors:** Monthly meeting begins at 6:15 p.m. 525 Howard/1st St. All welcome.
- **Bi Social:** Castro neighborhood restaurant. 7 p.m. Pierre, 753-0687, or Karla, 863-5960.
- **Gay Men & Our Addictions:** Rap group with 18th St. Services counselor Chuck McNeil. 3:30-4:30 p.m. Tenderloin Self-Help Cntr, 191 Golden Gate Ave. 554-0518.
- **Lesbian Psychotherapy Group:** ongoing, Tue. evenings, 5:30-7 p.m. Operation Concern, 1853 Market, SF 94103, Call 626-7000 for info & intake appointment.
- **Project Eden, Inc., Hayward:** Have a drug problem or need someone to talk to? Call Project Eden's 24-hour crisis hotline and drop-in counseling: 887-0566. Confidential.
- **Passive Immunotherapy Foundation:** volunteers needed to promote possible effective anti-AIDS therapy. Meets weekly, 7:30 p.m. PATH Project, 333 Valencia, 4th floor.
- **Ministry of Light:** Gay men's support group, 8-9:30 p.m., 1000 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., Rm. 18, San Anselmo. Call: 457-0854 or 457-1115.
- **Slightly Older Lesbians:** Small group discussion, Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, 7-9 p.m.
- **Asian Gay Men's Support Group:** The Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 6:30-8 p.m. Call: 548-8283.

WEDNESDAY 29

- **Female Trouble:** Rynata. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. \$3 (\$2 before 10 p.m.). 1821 Haight.
- **Hyena, a new dance club:** At 6th & Harrison with live entertainment every week. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. \$2.
- **Mercury:** Progressive/urban house dancing for boys and girls 18+. \$5. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. 520 4th St./Bryant.
- **El Rio:** Comics Danny Williams, Maria Falzone, Monica Grant, Ed Krasnick. 9-11 p.m. 3158 Mission.
- **Secrets:** By Rebecca Ranson. Your last chance to see it! 3 p.m. \$9-10. The Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. Call 861-5079.
- **The Friends of Photography:** "Walk-through the Ansel Adams Center Galleries," with Ellen Manchester. 250 4th St., SF. Call 495-7000.

• **Benefit Reading for Chinese Writers in Exile Magazine:** With Czeslaw Milosz, Maxine Hong Kingston, Genny Lim, Fei Ye & Bei Ling. 7:30 p.m. \$7. San Francisco Art Institute, 800 Chestnut. Call 524-7317.

• **Tuck & Patti to Appear in Lecture/Demo:** The guitar/vocal jazz performers will be at SFSU's McKenna Theatre. 7:30 p.m. \$5-7. Tix at BASS or Student Union Info Desk. Call 338-2444.

• **Silkscreen Workshop:** Hand print your Xmas cards or gifts. FREE. Open to PWA/PWARC/PHIVs. 2:30-5 p.m. Rest Stop, 134 Church. Call 621-REST.

• **Art Class:** Exploring AIDS/ARC issues through creativity. FREE. 7-9 p.m. Rest Stop, 134 Church. 621-REST.

• **Finding Love All Minds Enlightened (FLAME):** Healing meditation 6:30 p.m., fellowship 7:30 p.m. 1853 15th St./Ramona (btwn Dolores & Guerrero). 566-4122.

• **Religious Science of SF:** Support for life threatening illnesses through the Science of Mind. 7 p.m. 703 Capp St. (btwn 22nd/23rd). Call 641-1702.

• **Crack Rap:** With Peer counselor Lawrence Miller. Every Wed., 9-10 a.m. Tenderloin Self-Help Cntr, 191 Golden Gate Ave. 554-0518. Crack detox also available.

• **Cruzin' The Castro:** Walking tour of our community from an historical perspective. Trevor Hailey's wealth of local history explains how & why SF became the Gay Mecca of the world. Offered daily 10 a.m. Call 550-8110.

• **Care Partners Support Group:** For those caring for people with AIDS & other life threatening illnesses. 7:30-9 p.m. MCC, 150 Eureka. 863-4434.

• **Trans-gender Support Group:** Wednesdays 4:30-6:30 p.m. with Counseling Supervisor Christine Tayleur. Open to all people dealing with trans-gender issues. Tenderloin Self-Help Center, 191 Golden Gate Ave., SF. 554-0518.

• **East Bay Figure Drawing Class:** Wednesday evenings, 7-10 p.m. Located in the Jack London Square produce market just four blocks from Lake Merritt BART station. Reservations/info call 465-7382.

THURSDAY 30

• **Voices for Choice Benefit:** Features Industrial Rainforest (all girl band) & Nag Nag Nag. Morty's, 1024 Kearny, SF. Call 986-MORT.

• **Old Wives' Tales Books:** Valerie Miner reads from her new book, *Trespassing and Other Stories*. 7:30 p.m. 1009 Valencia, SF. Call 821-4675.

• **Barron Storey:** Paintings, Drawings, Journals, Videos: Thru Dec. 24. Reception tonight 6-9 p.m. Fobbo Gallery, 3747 23rd St., SF. Thu.-Sat., 3-7 p.m. Call 695-0640.

• **Bill Talen Presents New Works:** Bay Area writer/actor premieres three new plays. Nov. 30 & Dec. 1 at 8:30 p.m.; Dec. 2 & 4 at 9 p.m. Life on the Water Theatre, Ft. Mason Bldg B. Call 885-2790.

• **El Rio:** X-Tal, Midnight Radio. 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m. 3158 Mission.

• **Swing—Big Band Workshop:** Every Thu., 7-8 p.m. 6 session thru Dec. 14. \$10/class, \$60/entire workshop. 50 Oak St./Van Ness, 4th floor. 995-4962.

• **Capp Street Project/AVT:** Sculptor Carl Cheng's 66 *Percent Water*, a large scale installation, and muralist Johanna Pettig's *Chance and Circumstance: A Women's Health Game*. Thru Jan. 13. FREE. Capp St. Project, 270 14th St., Tue.-Sat., Noon-5 p.m. 626-7747.

• **Holiday Open House & Glassmaking Demonstrations** at Weisbach Studios: Nov. 30—Dec. 3, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 2377 San Jose Ave., SF. Call 585-5652.

• **HIS House, AIDS Care Cntr:** Group home for HIV+ persons. Group therapy, individual & relationship counseling, social service assistance. Call (707)433-5116. Santa Rosa.

• **PWA Pals:** For those looking for a meaningful relationship within the AIDS Crisis. PWA couples also welcome. Meets Sun. & Thu. weekly. Guest speakers, potluck, special events planned. Call 861-7765 for Thursday info, 469-4886 for Sunday.

• **HIV Support Group for Gay Asian/Pacific Men & Their Partners:** Meets every Thu., 5:30-7 p.m. A pre-group screening is requested. Contact facilitators: Kiki Ching, LCSW-Team II, 558-2551/2507; Joji Yoshimura, PhD, Psychologist, 474-7310.

• **Attitudinal Healing Principles Support Group:** For persons living with AIDS/ARC. 1-3 p.m. Rest Stop, 134 Church, SF. 621-REST.

• **Calligraphy Class:** Beginners & experts welcome. For persons living with AIDS/ARC/HIV concerns. FREE. 2-4 p.m. Rest Stop, 134 Church, SF. 621-REST.

• **Creative Writing:** For those living with AIDS/ARC/HIV concerns. An 8 week session begins Nov. 18, 3-5 p.m. FREE. Rest Stop, 134 Church, SF. 621-REST.

• **Trans-gender Addictions Groups:** With Counseling Supervisor Christine Tayleur. Thursdays 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tenderloin Self-Help Cntr, 191 Golden Gate Ave. 554-0518.

• **Support Group:** Michael Luke leads group for caregivers. 7-8:30 p.m. Kairos House, 114 Douglass. 861-0877.



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Homosexuality

(Continued from page 25)

arts, as are most other groups in the United States. Wildmon's assault on the private sector is more complicated because the profit motive tends to override the relevant social factors.

The truth is that advertisers regularly withdraw sponsorship of TV shows when controversial topics—abortion (*Roe vs. Wade*), the atom bomb (*The Day After*), or lesbian rights (*A Question of Love*)—are examined. As Todd Gitlin pointed out in his book *Inside Prime Time*, the loss of even a small percentage of a show's audience (*thirtysomething* averages 10 million viewers per week) to an advertiser boycott is significant, hence the concern over threats from "fringe" groups.

Asking for Trouble

For this reason, the producers of *thirtysomething* deserve kudos for daring to create the gay character of Russell Weller (played by actor David Marshall Grant), knowing full well that they were asking for trouble. Their announcement after the airing of the Nov. 7 episode (the third in which the character has appeared and which resulted in the loss—for that episode—of nine to 15 sponsors) that the character would continue is a truly astounding and hopeful sign.

A scene with Russell engaged in an obvious post-lovemaking chat with Peter, his date for the night, was a groundbreaker for network TV. (Their conversation ranged from "So when did you know?" to "Lost a lot of friends?") ABC is reported to have nixed a kiss during this



Melanie Mayron plays Melissa.

scene, but the episode remains significant because of the matter-of-fact way the writers employed the budding gay romance as a

parallel to the main story line. The focus of the episode was the relationship of one of *thirtysomething's* major characters, Melissa, with Lee, a 23-year-old painting contractor (she's "thirtysomething"), and how the relationship forces her to confront her fears about intimacy.

Russell is so realistic a character he's actually politically incorrect at times (aren't we all?), particularly when he fusses about not wanting to appear like too much of a "stereotype" and wonders whether or not Peter (or, later in the show, he himself) might not be too queeny. He is not the first gay to think these thoughts, and, surprisingly, a straight character reminds Russell just to act naturally. The character is neither a "noble" gay out of a GLAAD handbook nor a pitiable stereotype.

Russell backs away from Peter

when he feels they're starting to get close, as does Melissa from Lee. By the end of the episode, both couples rekindle their romances having, theoretically, confronted their fears. The pro-

The budding gay romance was a parallel to the main story line.

gram is basically a baby boomer morality play along the lines of *Father Knows Best* or *Leave it to Beaver*, but as the boomers are older, the stakes are higher. The problem isn't just whether or not Bud or Beaver have lied in school; now the problem is that these folks are lying to themselves, and since they're starting to get on in years, they're wasting precious time.

Does TV Shape or Reflect?

Many a Ph.D. dissertation in mass communication debates whether TV reflects or shapes society. Those who assert that TV promotes homosexuality believe that TV has the power to shape and that is why they feel compelled to control what the masses see. Those who believe that TV simply reflects society's attitudes would point out that the virtually complete absence of homosexuals from the first 20-odd years of television's history, followed by their gradual, (and, even then, stilted), portrayals in recent years, mirrors exactly the progression of post-World War II America's interaction with gays.

Prime time television excluded blacks long after most of the country could have dealt with the depiction for precisely the same reason the networks have made gays nearly invisible. In the 1950s and 1960s, producers wanting to include black characters were told they could not, for fear of offending racially prejudiced viewers. Then, as now, a vocal minority frightened advertisers.

ABC reportedly nixed a kiss during the gay scene.

By the 1970s, the networks considered it a badge of honor that they were including black characters (which, admittedly, were simplistic—a complaint that could be made about most every inhabitant of television), and research began to show that the attitudes of a measurable portion of the audience towards blacks were affected in a positive manner by television programming. So TV clearly played a part in shaping societal attitudes.

But court fights, lobbying before Congress and interpersonal communication among blacks and whites clearly played a more telling role in the alteration of society's attitudes towards blacks. It is this progress that was reflected in the television portrayals.

For heterosexuals (and gays in the hinterlands, for that matter) who have no other commerce with homosexuals, shows like *thirtysomething* cannot help but contribute to greater awareness that gays exist, which means that such shows do, in essence, promote homosexuality. Would that this mild form of affirmative action, were even more potent—and plentiful.

Editor's note: Marshall Herskovitz and Edward Zwick, the producers of *thirtysomething* can be reached in care of MGM/UA Television, 4024 Radford Ave., Studio City, CA 91604. ▼

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of porn-ring probe

7th
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3 Marines discharged
in alleged porn ring

CAMP PENDLETON — Three more Marines implicated in a pornography ring were discharged this week for "lewd and lascivious conduct."

Although police regard the 15 Marines allegedly involved in ring only as witnesses, Department of Defense policy prohibits all military servicemen and women engaging in homosexual acts or pornography, whether or not they paid.

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Lesbian Raku Artist

Achieving a Balance Between Planning and Accident

by Mary Richards

The prestigious Association of California Ceramic Artists (ACCA) will hold its annual Holiday Clay/Glass exhibition at the San Francisco County Fair Building on Nov. 25 and 26. Among the artists represented at the Golden Gate Park show will be Cori Couture, president of the ACCA and "out" as a lesbian in the art world.

Couture's work typifies the elegance and simplicity of the raku technique in pottery, which was developed for use by Zen masters in their tea ceremonies. The artist describes raku pots as symbolizing the "relationship between planning and accident. The artist balances the process between conscious decisions and openness to the unpredictable, creating and making use of accidents."

Ironically, much of Couture's art was recently subjected to the unpredictable. "I was in my studio during the earthquake," Couture says quietly. "I had done a lot of work getting ready for a studio sale, several months' worth." She watched her pots, situated on free-standing shelves, as they toppled over and crashed to a concrete floor.

"I'll be honest, I cried," she continues. "But I'm grateful that I'm alive."

Couture, who lives in Oakland, still has enough of her beautiful work to display at the ACCA exhibition in San Francisco. She will present plates, ranging in diameter from 12 inches to 22 inches, small and large bowls, and a whole range of vases.

She describes her craft as having "gone through a transition in the last three or four years. I used to do plain glazes and was very involved in the simple form. I've become more involved now in doing surface decoration. I'm very intrigued with brushmarks. I've stopped using my really nice, expensive, lovely Japanese brushes." The result lends a more "asymmetrical and gestural" look to her art.

Couture has been president of the 350-member ACCA since last year. "What is wonderful about this show," she says with enthusiasm, "is that it is put on by local craftspeople, by the potters themselves. We sponsor it, we do all the work for it. It's all volunteer."

Being Out

Does the fact that Couture is identified as a lesbian have an effect on her relationship to the art world? "I think the reason why the subject doesn't come up," she remarks, "is that at this point of

time in my work I'm basically dealing with more classical aesthetic concerns. Being a lesbian or specifically woman-identified is not obvious.

"I would say that I have not encountered homophobia per se, but then again I have not tried to deal with anything that is explicitly homosexual. I would say that it [homophobia] is definitely there, there's no doubt in my mind. It's as strong in the art world, if not stronger, than in other areas.

"What we all want to be able to do is make the kind of art we want to make if we are artists, and be able to put it out into the world without any restrictions around that." Couture believes that coming out is as important in her art as it is in her life. The reason? "Just for the world to know that we're just like folks," she said.

Cori has deviated from total dedication to her art in recent months to become a Model Mugging instructor at a self-defense class in Oakland. Closer to her heart, however, is the ACCA.

(Continued on next page)



Raku artist Cori Couture.

Gay/Lesbian Programs

Helping Hands

Monday, 7 p.m., S.F. Viacom 6
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., S.F. Viacom 6

Frameline Presents

Monday, 8:30 p.m., S.F. Viacom 25

Messiah Theatre Productions

Wednesday, 2:30 p.m., S.F. Viacom 25: Starring "De John De Messiah" and entourage. Weekly discourses on how and why "we" will stage the Second Coming; the making of a gay cult figure.

Kevin Gladstone's "Straight Talk"

Wednesday, (1st, 3rd) 4:30 p.m., S.F. Viacom 25: Steve Dambach—Publisher of *Newsex* magazine; Jim Bentley's most embarrassing moment; Question Man in the Financial District.

Healing Ourselves

Wednesday, (2nd, 4th) 10 p.m., S.F. Viacom 25: A visit with Chef Rami Sternfeld of the Rami Cafe in Noe Valley, who talks about good nutrition, balance and contrast. Hosted by Patrick Edwards.

Community Action Network News

Monday, 7:30 p.m., Mountain View Cable 30
Wednesday, (1st, 3rd) 10 p.m., PCTV (Oakland, East Bay)
Thursday, (1st, 3rd) 6:30 p.m., S.F. Viacom 6

Outlook

Monday, (4th) 6:30 p.m., S.F. Viacom 6
Wednesday, (1st & 3rd) 9 p.m., PCTV (Oakland, NE Bay)
Thursday, Weekly, 8:30 p.m., Mountain View Cable 30; (4th) 6:30 p.m., S.F. Viacom 6

Friday, (2nd, 4th) 7:30 p.m., Los Altos, Cupertino Cable 30: Farewell to Maud's, the world's oldest lesbian bar; author Mike Culburt; our resident wit Benet Marks; plus meet Outlook's guest host K-FOG FM's Dan Carlisle.

Electric City

Sunday, 10 p.m., S.F. Viacom 35
Tuesday, 10 p.m., Mountain View Cable 30
Wednesday, 8 p.m., S.F. Viacom Cable 35
Friday, 7:30 p.m., KCAT South Bay Cable: Adoption issues; Ann Margret; Kate Bornstein in "Hidden-Agender" and more.

Hibernia Beach

Sunday, 7:30 a.m., KITS 105.3 FM: Ken McPherson on issues of concern for gay men.

Fruit Punch

Wednesday, 10 p.m., KPFA 94.1 FM: News, interviews, reviews.

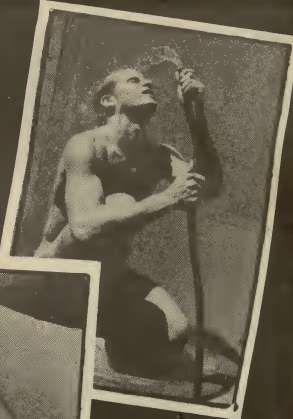
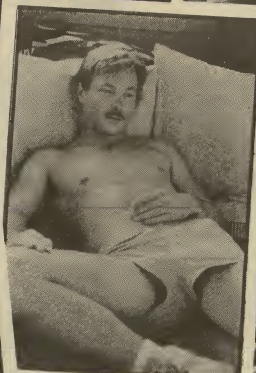
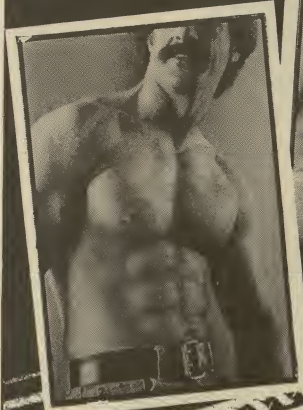
Healing Tales

Monday, 8:30 p.m., KALW 91.7 FM: A special tale from the land of La Bamba, "Mrs. Fox meets Mrs. Alligator" was learned from a dancing Mexican grandma.

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PAWS Still Cares for People with AIDS

by Marv. Shaw

Pets are giving great emotional support to people with AIDS and ARC in San Francisco, Contra Costa, and Alameda counties, according to the officers and volunteers of PAWS (Pets Are Wonderful Support). As Bob, one typical client put it, "People come to visit, but they can only stay an hour, and then they have to go; my cat, she's always here."

Animal companions can offer pleasure, affection, and even a purpose to life in time of illness, as Ken Gorczyca, PAWS' new

board president, states in a PAWS publication. The AIDS patient, who may feel isolated, rejected and stigmatized by other people, often finds a continuous source of nonjudgmental love in a pet.

Started in 1987, PAWS, which is currently undergoing some reorganization under new board president Gorczyca, has approximately 500 registered volunteers, about 50 to 100 of whom are active at any one time. PAWS volunteers perform a variety of functions. All of the usual office skills are in constant demand, in-

cluding computer operation. Fund raising is ongoing. To date, financial support has come from many different sources, with the annual bike-a-thon being one of the most important.

The volunteers' jobs at the clients' residences are sometimes non-skilled, such as transportation of the clients or their animals, pet exercising and delivering food and supplies. More specialized work includes pet hygiene, aquarium and terrarium maintenance and bird care.

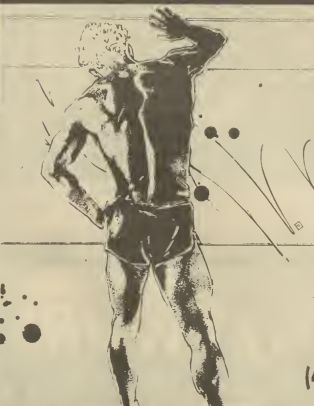
Leah Talley, PAWS' only paid worker, manages the office and coordinates the complex activities. Her hours are from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. One persistent need that she tries to meet is the relocation of the pets of clients who are hospitalized or die.



Tom Cosgrove and pets.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

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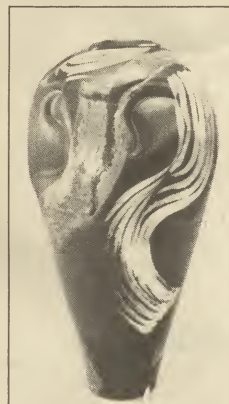
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Cori Couture's raku pots.

Balance

(Continued from previous page)

"The camaraderie of people in the organization is really wonderful," she acknowledges. "It is a volunteer organization, and my doing this is really out of a sense that I loved that the organization was there for me when I needed to get in touch with potters, when I needed to make

friends and have a community. It's a joy."

The Holiday Clay/Glass hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The County Fair Building is at the Ninth Avenue and Lincoln Way entrance to Golden Gate Park. Couture's work can also be seen in San Francisco at the Worden Gallery and at the Robert Brian Company in the Galleria Design Center. ▼

New Langton Arts Grants

New Langton Arts, Multicultural Arts Consortium and Artists Trust announces the fifth year of the Grant Program for Interdisciplinary Artists available to individuals and groups of artists working in interdisciplinary and collaborative art forms. Artists must live in Northern California,

Oregon, Washington and Alaska.

This granting program is designed to enable artists to begin or complete a project or to continue to develop a work

The application deadline is Feb. 3, 1990. Application forms and guidelines may be obtained by sending a self-addressed stamped legal sized envelope to: New Langton Arts, 1246 Folsom St., San Francisco, CA 94103. ▼

Asian Pacific AIDS Group Seeks Coordinator

The Bay Asian Pacific Alliance Community HIV Project (GCHP) is seeking a Project Coordinator to direct the group's activities.

GCHP recently received funding for the first time from the city of San Francisco and is in the process of implementing the various phases of the proposal, which

include targeting educational and prevention materials to gay and bisexual men of Asian and Pacific Islander descent.

The Project Coordinator will coordinate all activities including, but not limited to, program development and implementation, volunteer recruitment, proposal and grant writing and coalition-building for GCHP, Inc. This person will coordinate

all activities and network with other organizations and serve as a liaison with the San Francisco Department of Public Health AIDS Office.

For a copy of the job requirements, submission of resume or other inquiries write to: GCHP, Inc., Personnel Committee, c/o Kevin Fong, PO Box 421884, San Francisco 94142-1884. The deadline for submissions is November 30.

Feminists Plan Anniversary Conference

Radical Women will sponsor a national conference to chart a course for militant feminist organizing. Titled "The Third Wave of Feminism: A Candidly Revolutionary Approach," the conference will be held Feb.

17-20, 1990, in Santa Monica, Ca., and will focus on theory and strategies essential to winning permanent social and political equality for all women.

For more information, phone 864-1278 or write the Radical Women National Office, 523A Valencia, San Francisco, CA 94110.

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Seeking Castro Street Fair performance of Acid Housewife. Remember "Rubber Gloves"? 978-0163. E47

Earthquake Relief, the Gay Rescue Mission needs \$, food, blankets, coats. 1080 Folsom, SF 94103. 863-4882. E51

Muscular Man of Color—I urge you to call, 821-6388. Ralph, WM 40s. E47

German-American seeks hunk, macho over 9", 18-25 in Sacto. (u top man). Kurt (916) 487-5721 for luv glory hole. E47

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Glory Hole Hotline, 621-1887. E52



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Carson Conroy

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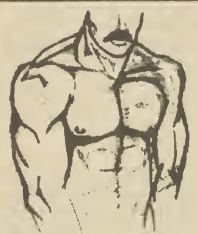
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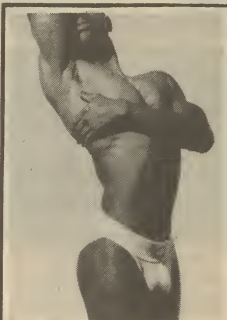
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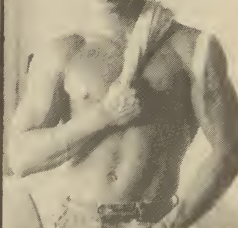
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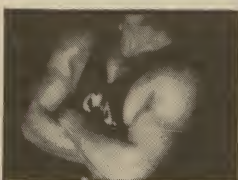
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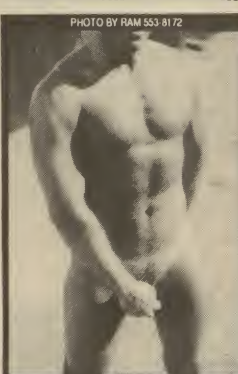


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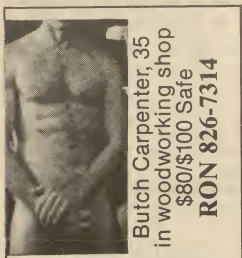
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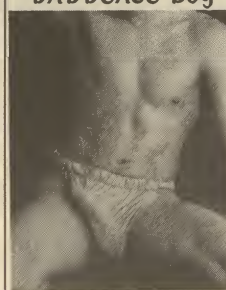
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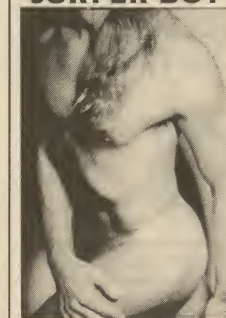
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RAM PHOTO 553-8172

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BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

Loss to Lethal Weapon

Football Trojans Eliminated

by Rick Thoman

Undeclared league champions Lethal Weapon struck a lethal blow to the San Francisco Trojans' first attempt at a league championship title as they edged the Trojans 34-16 in a hard-fought battle on Saturday, Nov. 18. Nevertheless, it's been an amazing season for San Francisco's little-team-that-could.

In only their second year of league play, and their first in the highly competitive "A" division the San Francisco Trojans made their way to the playoffs of the San Ramon Recreational Flag Football League. They finished the first half of the season undefeated, but dropped three out of four games in the second half to finish the season with a 5-3 record, tied for third place.

It was the sixth game of the season that was a decisive one for both the Trojans and their opponent, the Matadors. After finishing second for the last two years in the "B" division, the Matadors needed to beat the Trojans to keep their playoff hopes alive. Unfortunately for them, a well-tuned Trojan attack eliminated the Matadors 42-20, vaulting San Francisco into the postseason action.

Lethal Weapon beat San Francisco in the final game of the regular season 42-6 to remain the only undefeated team in the San Ramon league. Unfortunately for the Trojans, they continued their winning ways in the playoffs. The Trojans adjusted for Lethal Weapon's drop-back

quarterback but didn't have the experience of playing together for several seasons that proved to be Lethal Weapon's edge.

"We considered our 2-7 record in the league last year as a positive step for us," Trojan captain Bernard Turner commented. "Many of our losses last year were close games and we learned from our mistakes, added some strength to our line and were able to produce an outstanding season this year."

Since the Trojans have proven themselves in the "straight" San Ramon league, the gay teams in the country are giving them wide berth. The West Hollywood Sun Devils lost four consecutive games to the Trojans and canceled a rematch tentatively set for December. The Sun Devils' main complaint was that the Trojans "hit too hard." They should have added that they also scored too much.

Seattle has jumped into flag football in a big way, attracting enough players to form ten teams and the first known gay league up there. The Trojans and people from Seattle have been discussing playing a game prior to Gay Games III, and Seattle has already stated that they will field a "best-of-the-league" all-star team in any match-up with San Francisco. New York has also started up a team for the Gay Games.

The Trojans will celebrate their remarkable season on Dec. 17 with a beer bust at Uncle Bert's bar on 18th St. near Castro. For more information, phone 824-7048.

SF Trojans 1989 Season Record

Opponent	San Francisco
Outlaws	14 24
All-Americans	8 14
No Names	Forfeit
Raiders	14 22
Diablo Engine	48 14
Matadors	20 42
Chapparels	40 18
Lethal Weapon	42 6



Trojan's offensive line at practice.

(Photo: Robert J. La Bombard)

Gay Volleyball Tourney

Three Teams Head to San Diego

by Rick Thoman

The Bay Area will have three teams participating in San Diego's 9th annual gay volleyball tournament over Thanksgiving weekend.

The San Francisco Quakes will compete in the "A" division, while the San Francisco City Islanders and the San Jose Spankers take on the competition in the "B" league.

Last year during Thanksgiving weekend, the City Islanders won the "B" division in their debut at Chicago's gay volleyball tournament. "Although we would be the defending champions, we decided not to go back to Chicago primarily for financial reasons," explained Mike

Bulawit, who captained the winning City Islanders team last year.

The City Islanders have split into two separate teams with the addition of several new members. The City Islander Tanis (Hawaiian for "young boys") will be competing in San Diego and includes original members Steve Moore, Gary Edde and Mark Onasi, as well as newcomers Jonathan Tufi, Darren Makaila, and Richard Fa'apouli. "Elders" Bulawit, Lino Afaese, and Fred Ennis will form the nucleus of a second City Islander squad (not participating in San Diego).

The San Francisco Quakes will also be testing a new line-up in

San Diego. The Quakes now consist of Deary Duffy, John Bingham, Chuck Payne, Greg Nixon, Michael Reponich, and Chris Cooper. Although the Quakes didn't match the Islanders' accomplishment last year, they hope their new roster will put them in the fight for the championship title this weekend.

As Gay Games III approaches, volleyball has had a resurgence of interest. The Eureka Valley gym on Collingwood Street, directly behind Cala Foods, is open for recreational volleyball on Sunday nights, 6 to 8 p.m. and Monday nights, 8 to 9:30 p.m. For more information, contact Mike Powers at 626-4734. Advanced volleyball

(Continued on page 51)

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The project functions on volunteer energy (neither of the two directors—Joe Brewer or Martin Delaney—draw salaries). The information hotline also needs daytime volunteers.

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BOWLING

Park Bowl, Japantown Competition

No-Tap Tourney A Success

by Jerry R. DeYoung

On the evening of Nov. 10, from 7 to 10 p.m., the registration segment of the Annual San Francisco No-Tap Invitational Bowling Tournament was conducted at The Mint on Market Street. Once the program got underway, its progress went exceptionally smoothly, due mainly to the skillful management provided by directors Dan Burley, Don George, and Robyn Trost, plus invaluable support supplied by Elizabeth Yesowitch and Randy Peterson. These are just a few of the dedicated individuals who donated their time, energy, and talent to bring this flawless international no-tap tournament to the bowlers gathered here in San Francisco. (One women's team came all the way from Calgary, Canada. Darn good one, too!)

Another group of people connected with the SFNTIT tournaments which has, in the past, not received anywhere near its just recognition are the tournament lane monitors. Mere words cannot do justice to the amount of complex/pressure-filled work these people do during the various bowling squads. Suffice it to say, though, that their responsibilities include math abilities, exercising a great amount of diplomacy, and demonstrating an extent of devotion to duty that most of us can only imagine. Without the extraordinary efforts of this exceptional group, the tournaments simply could not happen. Therefore, I'm certain

each bowler joins me in extending a sincere heartfelt "thanks (and possibly something more tangible in future tournaments)" for the caring and sharing attitudes these selfless souls repeatedly extend to us, sometimes less-than-grateful, tournament bowlers.

The intense excitement afforded to experienced, as well as novice, bowlers by the SFNTIT two-level, two-house, two-day format can scarcely be equalled by any other form of diversion. (Yes, including that one!) For instance, in the team segment held at Japantown bowl on Nov. 12, Tim Mulvenon on lanes 21 and 22 picked up impossible spares, the tournament offered two categories in which high rollers could place, the doubles and team events, with the stimulating added attraction of placing in both, an achievement which many bowlers actually realized.

The no-tap format has a leveling effect which promotes an improved chance of placing for those bowlers who may be a bit more zealous than skillful, such as yours truly. A no-tap tournament means a 9-pin first-ball count is recorded as a strike. Generally, at least several perfect games have been realized in each SFNTIT tournament — this year's tourney was an exception in the superlative sense. The following outstanding bowlers scored perfect 300 games, and were awarded teddy bears at the

post-tournament award party and buffet held at the Cafe San Marcos on upper Market near Castro Street:

Rich Bessett, Gary Fella (2), Don Gamble (2), Don George, Nathan Hauser, Jeff Hettmansperger, Debra Maruyama.

121 teams participated in the thrilling doubles event held at Park Bowl on Nov. 11 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. After the pins were allowed to stand still and silent at the far end of the lanes and the totally spent bowlers lay collapsed on the benches, these triumphant winners emerged:

(1) 1,560 Len Broberg, Don George. (2) 1,550 Doug Litwin, Steve Rocha. (3) 1,544 Don Gambell, Randy Peterson. (4) 1,538 Tim Mulvenon, Dan Mannon. (5) 1,526 Jean Butler, Jim Hahn. (6) 1,513 Joseph Concilio, Greg Hettmansperger. (7) 1,503 Tom Sipple, Randy Peterson. (8) 1,495 Dan Burley, Tom Sipple. (9) 1,481 Don George, Vince Dicolla. (10) 1,480 Hunter Bauman, Brett Juris.

In case you are wondering why several names appear more than once in this list of winners, a bowler could only cash once with the same partner; however, a bowler could change partners and cash as many times as he or she was capable of doing. Speaking of cash, the 1st-place prize in doubles was \$400.00. (Dinner, anyone?)

The sensational teams event



(Photo: Jerry R. De Young)

was held on Nov. 12 at Japantown Bowl from 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. 47 four-person teams participated, with many teams choosing to bowl in more than one squad. The teams that placed in the money were as follows:

(1) 3,179 **Guess Which Suzie's the Bitch** Don Gambell, Timelo Mulvenon, Randy Peterson, Tom Sipple.

(2) 3,056 **Brain Dead Suzies** Tony Filla, Randy Peterson, Tom Sipple, Robyn Trost.

(3) 2,954 **Have You Come Lately?** Rich Bessette, Eric Caplan, Tom Keyser, Myke Sandlin.

(4) 2,940 **Suzie's Urasis Dragon** Kevin Ahart, Dan Burley, Randy Peterson, Tom Sipple.

(5) 2,928 **Pilsner Penguins** Pat Conlon, David Frank, Angelo Maggio, Jerry Pepper.

(6) 2,926 **Get It Together** Nathan Hauser, Jeff Hettmansperger, Don Manning, Ron Squires.

(7) 2,920 **Eartha Quakers**

Jean Butler, Rich Goudy, Glenn Lyons, John Werner.

Another achievement worthy of recognition is that the raffle, for which tickets were sold throughout the tournament, took in \$632 for the SFBear and other worthy organizations. Many nice prizes were donated by local and distant organizations to award to the lucky ticket holders. (I had two tickets and only missed winning a fantastic prize by 600 or so numbers.)

In closing, I would like to extend a great big triple thanks to the Cafe San Marcos for providing the space for the awards presentation, one of their employees for creating the fabulous buffet, and Lynn Broberg for the magnificent job he did as MC.

There you have it folks, some of the highlights, and there were many, of the 1989 SFNTIT/SFBear Bowling Tournament. Till we meet again next year, remember, there's more to bowling than high pin count, and as soon as I figure out what it is, I'll tell you. ▼

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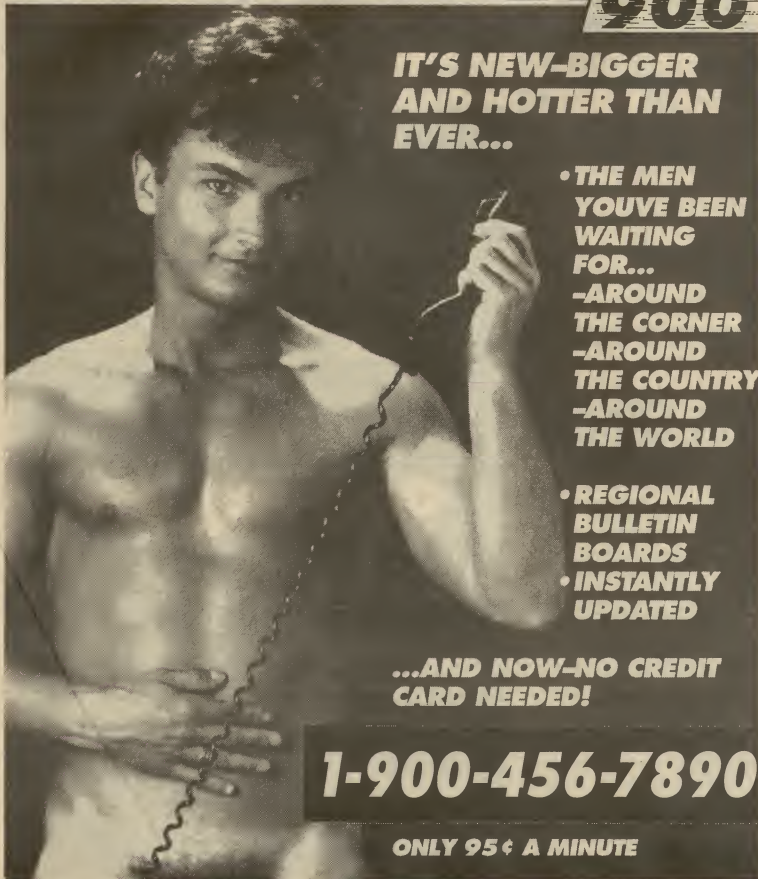
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POOL

SFPA Competition

Clash of MVPs

The post-season tournament blitz was officially heralded last Saturday when 17 team representatives escaped the afternoon sunshine to bask in the revealing light of competition in the San Francisco Pool Association's 14th MVP Tournament at Family Billiards.

The White Swallow International is the league's third highest rated team and it was proudly represented by last season's All-Star Champion, Bernard Bayaca, who started the contest with a convincing win. The 2-0 victim was the Cinch Shooting Stars captain, Antonio Rios. Bernard next toppled Overpass Toddler, Bernie King, by the same score.

Lauren Ward managed to prevail in a tight, 2-1 match and Bayaca was diverted to the losers' bracket. There he eliminated Cinch You've Been Gone's Rick Bradford, who seems to be stuck in a fifth place groove in recent outings. Bayaca was finally stopped in fourth place, falling 2-0 to Karen Brandman and posting a 7-4 record.

Brandman has been the main Maniac from the Cafe San Marcos all season and was primed for action as she stroked out consecutive 2-0 victories over Adam Cronkite and Bob Boyle. Glenn Judd would prove her undoing with a 2-0 of his own. Her loser's bracket win over Bayaca got her into the top three but that's where it ended on another 2-0 blanking by Judd. Karen scored 8-5 in her third place finish.

Glenn Judd's terrific accuracy and commanding stroke have produced an excellent season as the Bear ET AL's team leader. He began the day by edging Don Kruse, 2-1. Jenny Brizgaloff and Brandman next met consecutive 2-0 fates. He was then stunned in the winners' bracket final on a fast 2-0 downing by Ward. His subsequent win over Brandman set up the final showdown.

Ward co-captains the league's top-rated San Marcos Cafe Quackers and had claimed the MVP Title four times. In spite of the pedigree she started out shakily, dropping the first game

(Continued on next page)

Grant Trent Remembered

Good Night, Sweet Prince

by Les Balmain

To the Bay Area's connoisseurs of fine dining, he was a restaurant owner and gourmet of unparalleled excellence and graciousness. To the San Francisco sports community and especially to the Gay Tennis Federation, he was a leader, a sponsor, a player and a fierce competitor. To his family he was a devoted brother. To his mate he was an adoring lover and business partner, and to all his associates, he was a most handsome prince charming, unaffected by his good looks, remaining a genuine friend to all those who knew him.

Grant Trent was born in Chandler, Oklahoma on July 1, 1943 and passed away in San Francisco on Nov. 11, 1989. Grant was diagnosed with AIDS in April 1986. As he had lived his life, facing each problem head on with uncompromising truth and sound judgment, he also combated his illness for over three years with a positive outlook and cheerful resolution.

Alas, the tragedy that the medical world is still falling short in its search for a cure denied Grant a victory against death. However, to all his friends, I know that he would ask them not to be sad on his parting, but to be happy that their shared experiences may have been some of the most joyful moments of their lives.

Pool

(Continued from previous page)

in her first three matches before eking out a 2-1 win over Rick Bradford, Ann Young, and Bayaca. Ward finally got up to speed with a 2-0 win over Judd but that was followed by a long break awaiting the losers' bracket survivor.

As the field's two highest rated players, Ward and Judd would face-off for the title. Judd got down to the 8-ball in the first game but Ward whittled away with strategy moves until getting ball in hand for a three ball run out. Game two seemed to present the same opportunity until a fluke scratch allowed Judd a straight in 8-ball. The third game was a comedy of errors with neither player able to capitalize until Ward's cue ball found the pocket more easily than her banked 8-ball, awarding the match to Judd and forcing a tie-breaking match for all the marbles.

Lauren scored first with a nicely played end game run out. Judd's explosive break scattered the balls but nothing fell and Ward stepped up with obvious intentions. Posting a table run to claim a major league title is an enviable fantasy which Ward brought to fruition with surgical precision, down to the straight in 8-ball to the heart of the side pocket.

Lauren's fifth MVP title came with an 11-5 match record and Judd posted a 10-6 score in second place.

The league's best 16 teams begin the playoffs to determine the City Champion next Tuesday. Four more individuals' tournaments are slated for December. Dial JOE-POOL for SFFA information. ▼

Grant Trent became a member of the GTF in August 1981. He catered, at cost, a sumptuous menu for the 1983 awards banquet. He made his restaurant, Ivy's, available for monthly GTF meetings from September 1982 through October 1985. On many occasions, he presented a free buffet to the membership before the meetings. He was a sponsor and team player on Ivy's first tennis team in 1983. Ivy's also won the championship that year. Grant sponsored tennis teams with Ivy's in 1984 and 1985, and Lupann's in 1986.

Grant was the tournament director of the 1984 GTF Membership Tournament and introduced a new format for three classes of competition, which opened the opportunity for all members of the club to participate and be recognized in our tournaments.

As a member of the select top twenty GTF team in the first annual San Francisco vs. San Diego

Team Tennis Challenge played in San Diego in October 1984, Grant won both his singles and doubles matches. Lupe Vasquez was his doubles partner.

Elected on Oct. 15, 1984, Grant became the fifth president of the GTF and served through October 1985. During his term of office, the regularly scheduled events were organized with competence and executed with success. These events were: continued year round challenge ladder; February, weekend trip to Palm Springs; March, Members Springtime Doubles Tournament; April, Team Tennis Play; May, Fifth Annual United States Gay Open; August, Team Tennis playoffs, Grand Prix Tournament; September, Russian River weekend, Membership Singles Tournament; October, Second Annual GTF vs. San Diego Team Tennis Challenge in San Diego, election of officers, Fourth Annual Awards Banquet.

In addition to these events,

Grant initiated and organized the following: First mixed doubles tournament between the GTF and the women's tennis team of Bay Area Career Women in November 1985; organized petitioning for lighting on the 15th Street courts through the San Francisco Park and Recreation appropriations committee (but was defeated by a neighborhood survey); and when Los Angeles forfeited the sixth annual challenge match to be played at Golden Gate Park in July, used the court reservations for a last-minute doubles tournament.

Grant won the Team Tennis Champion award in 1983, the 1985 Class B Doubles Champions award (with Lupe Vasquez) and at the February 1986 Cable Car Awards was voted the "Outstanding Sportsman of the Year" in tennis.

A celebration of Grant's life will be held in the recreation hall of the Potrero Court, 2250 24th St., San Francisco, on Saturday, Dec. 2, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. A remembrance by his friends will be held at 2 p.m. ▼



San Diego

(Continued from page 49)

is played at the Eureka gym on Saturdays (except the first Saturday of each month) from 9:30 to 11:30 p.m. For more info about Saturday volleyball, contact Mike Bulawit at 731-2056.

At the Glen Park Recreation Center gymnasium, competitive volleyball training sessions are held every Monday night, 7 to 9 p.m. These practice sessions are for those who have competitive experience and want to improve. The evening includes drills, technique work and limited team play. According to Bulawit, "People coming to this should expect a hard workout." For more information, contact Bulawit at 731-2056. ▼

Nureyev to Appear In Best of Broadway

Carole Shorenstein Hays and James M. Nederlander have announced a new Best of Broadway subscription series for early 1990. Rudolf Nureyev will star in *The King and I* at the Orpheum Theatre in February. Also in February, San Francisco's Bill Irwin brings his acclaimed Broadway experience, *Largely New York*, to the Golden Gate Theatre. For ticket information, phone 474-3800. ▼



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Far Right

(Continued from page 25)

said. "They don't think of gays and lesbians as consumers, as part of the mainstream buying public. They don't realize there could be a reaction from us as well as from groups like Wildmon's," he said. "The mainstream media always give more attention to groups like the AFA."

GLAAD is currently encouraging people to write letters of support to the producers of *thirtysomething*. "They got 400 negative calls after the show," Miller said. "I suspect they were coordinated by AFA, and weren't spontaneous." Most of the letters

received about the show have been favorable.

"We haven't had this much response to any other episode of the show," Debra Petra, a representative of *thirtysomething* told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "But it's nothing we didn't expect. It doesn't scare us, and we're not going to eliminate any characters or storylines."

It is not believed that Wildmon's letter strongly influenced the temporary loss of advertising, but GLAAD is taking no chances. "At this point our efforts are directed at finding the names of the advertisers," said Karen Schwartz of GLAAD, indicating that they might boycott those who pulled their ads. ▼

We will so identify the sponsors through our network of Christian leaders and in the media.

I certainly hope that E & J Gallo will not be on that list.

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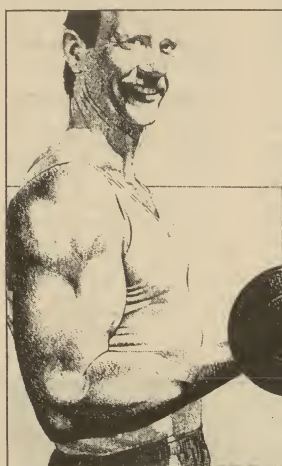
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Moscow

(Continued from page 30)

On the Streets

Outside the festival, I was able to wander the streets freely. As night fell on Red Square (at 11 p.m.), I decided to do some extracurricular research. John Greyson, the director of *Urinal*, told me the best (and I think only) cruising spot in town, the park in front of the Bolshoi. Filled with men of all types—queens, hustlers, bodybuilders, etc.—the scene was all too familiar. It became immediately apparent that I was a new face in town. "You gay?" many would ask, ignoring the obvious.

Before I could even say "yes," many would want to go somewhere for sex. My being from San Francisco was not a black mark against me as it is in Western European countries. In fact the subject of AIDS never came up.

Finally, I managed to sit down and talk to several of these park wanderers about gay life in Moscow. Most seemed comfortable within their ranks, and when asked the very broad question of what it was like to be gay in Russia, "fine" was the usual response. Several called each other "girlfriend" or "sister." Some walked the park hand in hand, and although there was a police presence, few seemed concerned with being busted.

People told me about the penal code, but the police didn't appear to be enforcing it. There are no openly gay bars, but in Moscow there are hardly any bars, straight or otherwise. The economy seemed to be a more troubling concern to gays than individual rights, as my date with a young Muscovite illustrated rather clearly.

After a rather innocent and romantic stroll through the Kremlin (during which he pulled me into a corner and gave me a luscious kiss), we made it back to my room. Immediately, he suggested we shower. In the middle of our long erotic cleansing, I realized that being able to bathe with a bar of soap was a huge luxury for him. The much talked about Soviet soap shortage was no longer an abstraction (indeed soap was one of the primary demands in the recent Siberian coal-miners' strike). My friend's envy of my goods—toiletries, camera, cassettes—put my western lifestyle in a new perspective.

The "morning after" I found myself giving away a significant portion of my wardrobe. Somewhere in Moscow today is a boy wearing an ACT UP T-shirt. When Gorbachev's face came on the TV, my friend made an unkind face and, mostly through sign language, conveyed his dissatisfaction with the current



Film club president.

state of affairs.

"There is much discussion," he said, "but things seem only to get worse. We have nothing here."

Moving Testament

The most moving testament to the intellectual release glasnost has brought came from the president of the Soviet Cinema Club Society. Struggling with crutches as she arrived at a welcoming party for us, the energy of this 75-year-old woman filled the room.

"Your presence and your films mean so much to us," she told us. "I have lived through 20 years of stagnation. At last, we are able to talk again. So although my body may be giving out, right now my heart is young."

Through her, I began to understand what is happening in Russia today. This is a country of open contradiction, an old struggling body with a young open heart. In spite of physical decay, the borderline poverty, the long lines, the lack of goods, the black market and the inefficiency, a new spirit is emerging, one that will hopefully include more empathy for Soviet lesbians and gays.

Upon returning home, I did experience a little of the "kiss the ground" syndrome. Being in Russia accentuated my appreciation of the broader freedom that exists in America, and more specifically in San Francisco. Yet curiously, after a few days, I began to recognize how superficial some of our freedoms are. Within our liberty we are in some ways imprisoned by complacency.

Instead of making things clearer, my trip to Moscow confused me. Questions come up. Why does our country tout glasnost, yet not even blink when Jesse Helms tries to censor our voices? Why do so many Soviets yearn for freedom, yet when being released prefer returning to the security of the prison?

As I continue my questioning, the face of the old woman keeps coming back to me and I realize the most important thing I learned, namely that freedom is not just another word—there or here. ▼

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Multi-Media Showcase at Theatre Artaud

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Multi-Image Showcase (MIS) presents "Projections in Performance, 1989," Thurs.-Sat., 8:30 p.m., Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, 2, and Dec. 7, 8 and 9 at Theatre Artaud, 450 Florida St. (near 17th).

Directed by Doug Baird and produced by Nancy Lytle, "Projections in Performance 1989" is the 11th annual showcase of multi-image art presented by MIS, whose 1988 production "Images and Sound in Concert" at Theatre Artaud drew critical acclaim. This year's program will include dance premieres of "Breathing" from School of the Arts, produced by artist/sculptor Ruth Asawa, and "Forest Shadows" from City College. PointFix, whose "Cycles" was a highlight of last year's show, will present a new movement sculpture entitled "Water." "Staring at the Wall," a perform-

ance piece by Julian Smedley, will incorporate live music, movement and illusionary slide projections. Also featured will be media interactive dance pieces from Mary Reid and Annie Doel.

This year's projection art will highlight Michael Lohner's international award-winning "Earthwalk," Canadian Richard St. John's portrait of "Sophie," a poetic essay titled "The Will To Govern" by Chuck Thurston and Christopher Hedge, and Synapse Productions' "LifeForce." Comedic performances include "Autogedden," in which Buzz Evans will take a look at the impact of the automobile on mod-

ern life, and "Parking on Harrison Street," in which Hank Hyena will share his humorous brand of urban paranoia.

In addition to the performance program, experimental and interactive projection installations by Larry Ackerman and Kevin O'Hare will greet and involve audience members as they enter the theater lobby.

Tickets for "Projections in Performance 1989" are \$12 (with a \$2 discount for students and seniors) and may be purchased through BASS/Ticketmaster: 762-BASS, STBS Union Square, or the Theatre Artaud box office, 621-7797.

Brava! to View New Works

Brava! For Women in the Arts will be viewing new works-in-progress in early December.

Original pieces will be chosen by audition before a panel of Bay Area theatre directors and writers. Strong consideration will be given to works which are multi-cultural and that address socially and/or politically relevant themes. Also strongly considered will be works that are cross-disciplinary.

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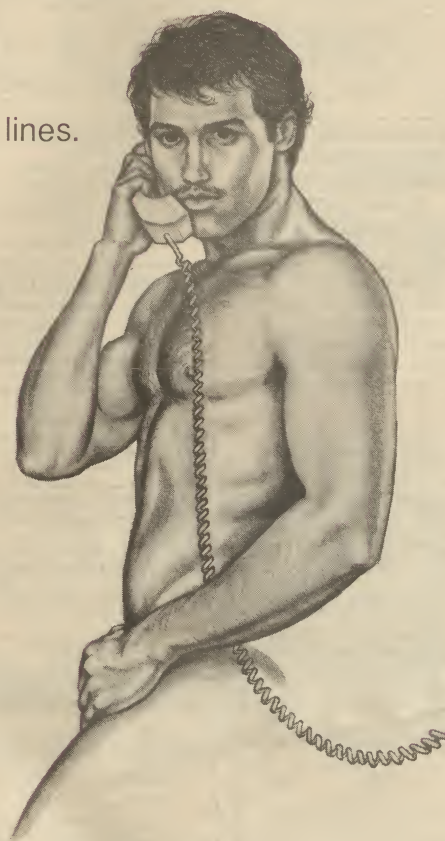
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